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COMMENT OF THE DAY

NATO Unity

IT is generally accepted that the current meeting of the NATO Council in Paris is one of the most vital to be held since the creation of the North Atlantic alliance. It provides the opportunity, not only for a thorough reappraisal of political developments in Eastern Europe and the Middle East, but for patching up past differences caused by the Suez Canal crisis between America and her principal European allies.

There has never been cause to believe that the Canal affair would permanently damage Anglo-French-US relations, and the way to their restoration was immediately opened when Britain and France unhesitatingly agreed to honour the United Nations directives and withdraw their forces from Egypt. It is thus fair to anticipate that before the NATO Council meeting ends there will be a substantial realignment of views between all the members of the alliance, and that past misunderstandings will be forgiven and forgotten.

Mr. Foster Dulles struck the required note when he referred to the need for common policies, though it is advisable to recognise that these may not readily materialise. It is noticeable, for example, that while Britain and France believe first attention should be given to the potentially explosive situation in the Middle East, America is inclined to place more importance on events in Eastern Europe. France is also desirous of NATO backing for her policy in Algeria, and on this question Mr. Dulles is displaying some hesitancy.

There are indications, however, that the Council generally recognises the urgent need for political co-operation and that more emphasis is likely to be placed on this than on that of economic co-operation, originally envisaged when the organisation set up its committee of "Three Wise Men" earlier this year. The necessity for integrated political policies has been underlined by the Suez crisis which so unhappily and severely strained the alliance.

The essentiality of NATO as a defensive alliance cannot seriously be disputed, but it needs to be strengthened politically, economically and militarily if it is to be effective. This is the challenge which the Council of Ministers must now meet and resolve.

HUNGARY STRIKE-BOUND

ALL BUT TWO TOWNS OUT PEOPLE IGNORE RADIO PLEAS

By RONALD FARQUHAR

Budapest, Dec. 11.

Hungary went on strike today in defiance of their Russian-backed government and according to reports reaching here tonight the work stoppage has been effective in all but two of the principal towns.

Blue uniformed Hungarian police fired shots in the air near a strategic cross roads in Budapest as crowds of strikers pressed round Soviet tanks and armoured cars poised ready for action.

Other bursts of firing were heard elsewhere in the capital but there have been no reports of violence.

Soviet tanks and armoured cars are patrolling the streets but have not attempted to disperse the crowds often numbering several hundreds which gather at the intersections.

POLICE PRESSURE

The two no strike towns are Salgotarjan (population about 40,000) a mining centre in northern Hungary near the Czech border, 80 were reported killed in a clash with Police there last Saturday and Zalaegerszeg (population about 35,000) in the south-west near the Yugoslav frontier.

Usually well-informed sources said intensified Police activity in both towns was a major reason for persuading the workers to stay at their jobs.

But elsewhere the strike went on despite renewed Government radio appeals.

BUDAPEST OUT

One Budapest radio broadcast claimed that the Citizens' guard factory was working as usual despite "provocative" attempts to halt production but reporters who drove up to the factory said they saw no signs of any work going on inside.

Meanwhile at six p.m. martial law was proclaimed on Sunday after the dissolution of the

STRIKE COSTS £10 MILLION

Radio Budapest said the strike in Hungary was costing about £10 million a day.

There were reports that the Hungarian regime was trying to enlist workers—especially railwaymen—in other satellite countries to break the strike.

The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions broadcast an appeal to the satellite workers to reject attempts to use them against the Hungarian strikers.—United Press.

'Britain Ready To Meet Egypt'

Paris, Dec. 11.

Britain has told the United States it is prepared to start direct talks with Egypt on a settlement of the Suez Canal conflict, official sources said today.

But Britain wants a US assurance of full backing of her insistence that the canal be cleared and opened without delay.

The British view was communicated to the US Secretary of State Mr. John Foster Dulles by the Foreign Secretary Mr. Selwyn Lloyd and further talks were expected to be held while both are in Paris.

Through UN

Direct talks with Egypt would be arranged through the United Nations Secretary-General Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld since the preliminary moves have been satisfactorily completed, the sources said.

All going well, the talks could be arranged later this month or early in January, probably in New York or alternatively in Geneva.

They would be at Foreign Minister level or perhaps lower than that to begin with, but not at top level.

Six Principles

Basics of such talks would be the six principles agreed on at the Anglo-French-Egyptian discussions in New York last October.

It is not known whether France will also participate in the talks.

There were indications that the United States would exert its influence to bring about an early opening of the blocked Suez Canal.—United Press.

FROGS GO TO WAR

Over A Female

Penang, Dec. 11.

Villagers at Langgar in Kedah state, today watched a "battle" involving more than 1,000 frogs. Hundreds were killed and the "battlefield" was littered with dead and wounded. The "battle" began when a bull of a land species invaded the territory of a "water king" to seek a mate. The water frogs immediately rallied and a pitched battle began in and around the pond inhabited by the water frogs as the water "beauty" sought by the land bull swam off to her "king" for protection.

'Captives' Taken

Two leapt at each other's throats in a life and death struggle which lasted for over two hours. The deep death croaks of the frogs boomed over a wide area. Villagers said that the land frogs gradually gained the upper hand, the water "kings" army retreating into the pond as the land "beauty" swam away with protecting female water frogs as captives.—Reuter.

Lithuania Reports Anti-Red Trouble

Moscow, Dec. 11.

The top-ranking Communist in Lithuania has charged that "reactionary elements" have sought to "stir up the Lithuanians against the Russians". It was disclosed in Moscow today.

In a speech to the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet, Mr. Smetekus, the First Secretary of the Party in Lithuania, indicated that a purge might be necessary against students "who give in to the lies" circulated by class enemies" and against "intellectuals who attack the ideological principles and the role of the party in science and in the arts."

Smetekus said: "Under the influence of the events in Hungary, reactionary elements in Lithuania have sought to stir up the Lithuanians against the Government, to idealise the bourgeois period, to win over the young people and to stir up the Lithuanians against the Russians."

He said the "reactionaries" had been "stimulated" by the Hungarian events and that some of them agitated under the guise of criticism, others in the name of a pseudo-democracy and still others quite openly.

Smetekus said: "We cannot remain passive observers while certain persons brutally distort the truth, idealise the bourgeois period and thus implant outmoded opinions, especially among young people who did not know the bourgeois regime."

Praising Lithuanian friendship with "the great Russian people", Smetekus said: "We shall never allow anyone to violate that friendship or to stir up the Lithuanian people against the other fraternal peoples."

He said that at present "certain representatives of science and culture profess opinions which have nothing in common with Marxist conceptions, and in the guise of criticism, seek to attack the ideological positions of Socialist realism".—France-Press.

Train Mined: 8 Die

Algiers, Dec. 11.

The Mediterranean to Algeria express was derailed by a rebel mine on the fringes of the Sahara Desert today. Eight passengers were killed and six injured.

The train was heading south when it ran on to a mine 12 miles north of Colomb-Bechar, a mining town in the Algerian-Moroccan frontier, 300 miles southwest of Algiers.—United Press.

Independence

London, Dec. 11. The House of Commons tonight approved without voting a bill to grant independence within the Commonwealth to the Gold Coast, on March 6, 1957.—Reuter.

ELECTION UPSET UNLIKELY

London, Dec. 11.

On the eve of his talks with the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Lennox-Boyd, Singapore's Chief Minister, Mr. Lim Yew Hock, said at a press conference that he had precipitated a showdown with left-wing elements in Singapore to determine how extensively they had infiltrated schools and trade unions.

"If I had not tried out their strength, I would have hesitated to come here and ask for complete internal self-government," he said.

Now, Mr. Lim said, there was no danger that if he got what he wanted and there was a general election that the new Government would be dominated by "Communist or back-seat drivers."

This was an allusion to the left-wing People's Action Party, whose extreme pro-Communist wing Lim Yew Hock hit by arresting Assemblyman, Lim Chin Siong, its leading member.

Mr. Lim said the Suez events have not had much impact yet on Singapore. The impact would be felt more when prices went up.

Too Preoccupied

Asked his opinions of the events in Suez, he said: "I have not even given thought to it. It has been too preoccupied with domestic politics."

He indicated that he would ask for complete internal self-government, leaving defence and foreign affairs, but not foreign trade and cultural relations, in British hands.

He intended to ask as well for a new law giving Singapore citizenship to long residents, who are mostly of Chinese origin.

He suggested that these Chinese-born people of an older generation were often more loyal to Singapore than locally born youngsters, who had been indoctrinated with an uncritical admiration for Peking in the Chinese language schools.

He did not, however, think it unnatural for people of Chinese origin to take a "natural pride in China as a growing power".—France-Press.

Damage To Soviet Consulate

Poland Will Pay Up

Warsaw, Dec. 11.

Poland will pay for damage caused to the Soviet consulate in Stettin last night when rioters broke windows in a bid to enter the premises, it was announced today.

The Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that it had apologized for the incident and has assured the Soviet Ambassador, Mr. O. Ponomarev, that those responsible would be punished.

Official sources said last night's trouble began after a militiaman arrested a drunk. Others released the prisoner and attacked the riot lamen. Reports reaching here from Stettin tonight said that some of the big crowd which gathered near the Soviet Consulate last night were students and workers trying to carry out a planned protest against Soviet armed intervention in Hungary.

But the students and workers who helped to disperse the crowds last night were members of the "Workers Militia" whose duty it is to halt any "provocative" demonstrations—especially anti-Russian ones—before they get out of hand, informed observers said.—Reuter.

Lawyers' Strike

The Arab Bar Association

called today a strike of all Arab lawyers on December 17 to protest against "the Iraqi Government's violation of the rights and freedom of the Iraqi people."

It said the strike would also protest against "the shedding of the blood of the Iraqi people and the arrest of the Secretary-General of the Arab Bar Association, Hussein Gamal, and other prominent Iraqi lawyers".—Reuter.

Phones Cut Off

Rome, Dec. 11.

Italy was cut off from telephonic and telegraphic communication with the outside world tonight by a strike of communications workers.—Reuter.

ALARM CAUSES PANIC

Brussels, Dec. 11.

Panic hit north-west Brussels today when an air-raid siren short circuited and sounded the alert.

By coincidence an aircraft from Elshroek airfield was over that part of the city at the same time. Dozens of people rushed into the streets. Others dived into their cellars. Cars and trams stopped in mid-street and jittery drivers ran for cover. Radio stations and newspapers were inundated with telephone calls from anxious citizens asking "Have the Russians come?"

Police were sent through the streets to reassure anxious citizens that it was only an accident.—United Press.



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PUPPET'S PROPHECY

Vienna, Dec. 11.

The Soviet puppet in Hungary, Janos Kadar, told a workers' delegation in Budapest today that "the counter-revolution will be broken up probably by the end of next week," Budapest radio said tonight.

He was said to have told the workers' delegation of several factories of the Budapest suburb, Pesterzsebet, that his government had had no time yet to work out a "positive government programme."

As soon as the counter-revolution was smashed, which "will probably be by the end of next week," the Government will announce its "positive programme" to the public, the radio reported him as saying.

CHIEF AIMS

Among the chief aims of the new government programme would be the country's independence and further democratisation, he said, according to Budapest radio.

Non-party men would be admitted to the government, provided they accepted the government programme, he said.

"Beyond this, the Government will not permit any political activity."

REFUGEES LOSS

Budapest radio later reported that the Hungarian Government issued a decree today confiscating all the property and assets of citizens who had left the country since October 23.

Citizens who return to Hungary by March 31, 1957, would have their property returned, the radio said. It did not mention whether these people would also get back their assets.—Reuter.

Austria's UN Move

New York, Dec. 11.

Austria tabled a draft resolution in the UN Assembly tonight to authorize Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld to undertake "with all his energy and all the means at his disposal to achieve a comprehensive solution of the Hungarian problem based on the principles of the charter."

The resolution would authorize Mr. Hammarskjöld to negotiate with member states as it seemed appropriate and report to the Assembly on the results. "If possible before the end of the first part of its session."

(The Assembly is due to adjourn on December 21 or 22 for the Christmas recess, resuming on January 2 or 3.)

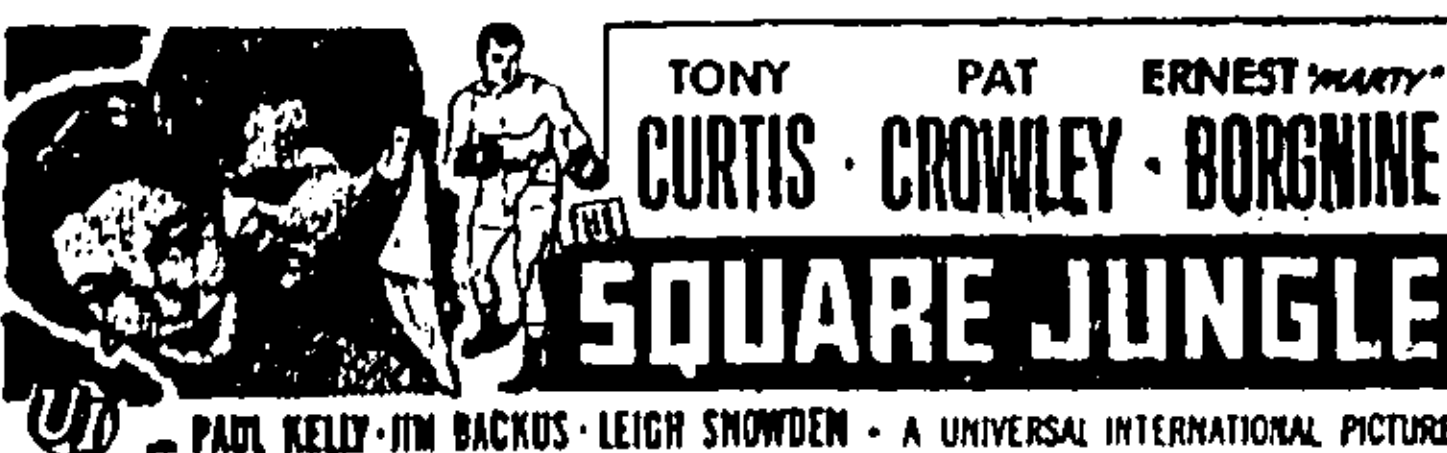
It, Franz Matsch, Austrian permanent representative, said Austria felt the resolution was more general in character than other and envisaged a new approach to a solution of "this complex problem".—Reuter.

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WU RING

WU RING

WU RING

WU RING

WU RING

Vital Ike-Nehru Talks

OUTCOME MIGHT AFFECT WORLD FOR MANY YEARS

Washington, Dec. 11. Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru arrived in Washington on Sunday for talks with President Eisenhower which are expected to have a major impact on world events in the months and years to come.

Nehru comes to Washington at a time when the United States is placing greater emphasis than ever on cultivating cordial relations with the Asian-African bloc of newly independent nations.

His visit is auspiciously timed, by coincidence, in that it follows two major developments which have drawn New Delhi and Washington closer. These are:

1. US condemnation of the Anglo-French invasion of Egypt, which raised American prestige to a new high throughout the Middle and Far East and
2. India's disillusionment with the Soviet Union as a result of the Kremlin's brutal repression in Hungary.

No Agenda

The Eisenhower-Nehru conversations are expected to range the gamut of human affairs. There will be no formal agenda since both men are believers in the value of frank and informal personal exchanges.

Among the subjects which it is expected they will discuss are: Events in the Soviet Union and the satellites, the aims and direction of the turbulent Middle East and the possibility of disarmament and banning of nuclear tests.

Nobody expects the two to agree in their assessment of developments in the Soviet Union, although it is expected that they will be closer together on this score than they would have been several months ago.

Eisenhower sees the Hungarian tragedy as evidence that Soviet communism has not changed its brutal nature. Nehru undoubtedly will cite Poland as an example of the possibility of gradual change.

Urge To Relax

Nehru is expected to urge the US to relax in its attitude toward China. Whether he had any new arguments with which he hopes to impress Eisenhower is not known here yet. The Indian leader is, however, known to believe that relaxation of the trade embargo would be a step toward achieving a measure of understanding between Peking and Washington. He also believes China should be given a seat in the UN.

While Eisenhower cannot agree at this time to give ground on these issues, it is predicted in diplomatic quarters here that once China has freed the remaining Americans it holds and given a pledge not to use force against Formosa, it would be possible to consider some softening of the American attitude.

Refusal

As regards the Middle East, Eisenhower is expected to urge Nehru to use his influence on President Gamal Abdel Nasser to get the Egyptian leader to accept a Suez settlement which will place the major users of the strategic waterway.

It is believed that Eisenhower's refusal to condone the British and French action places him in a strong position to argue with Nehru that Nasser should show a more conciliatory spirit on regulation of the Canal—United Press.

India Setting Up A Press Council

New Delhi, Dec. 11.

The Council of States—the Upper House of Parliament—today approved a bill to set up a press council in India designed to safeguard the liberty of the press and improve journalistic ethics.

An amendment asking the bill to specify that a journalist should be asked to disclose his sources of information to the press council was defeated.

Dr B. V. Keskar, the Information Minister, said it was inevitable to him that a mainly journalistic body would put any embarrassing question to a colleague about sources of information.

The bill will now go to the House of the People—the Lower House. If passed, it will require the president's signature to become law.

ETHICS

Under the bill the press council will not only safeguard the liberty of the press and maintain the standards of journalistic ethics, but will also keep under review developments tending towards monopoly and concentration of control.

It will also promote research and provide common services for the press. The council will consist of a chairman and 25 other members, including 13 working journalists, six proprietors or business managers of newspapers and three Members of Parliament—Reuters.

Oil Pipeline Inspection Requested

Damascus, Dec. 11.

The Iraq Petroleum Company has asked the Syrian Government to arrange for an early inspection of oil pipelines and pumping stations blown up shortly after the armed action against Egypt, a reliable source stated here tonight.

The request said the inspection was necessary in order to assess the damage and speed up repair work. Government officials earlier made statements saying that the flow of oil would not be started up again until Anglo-French forces were withdrawn from Egypt.

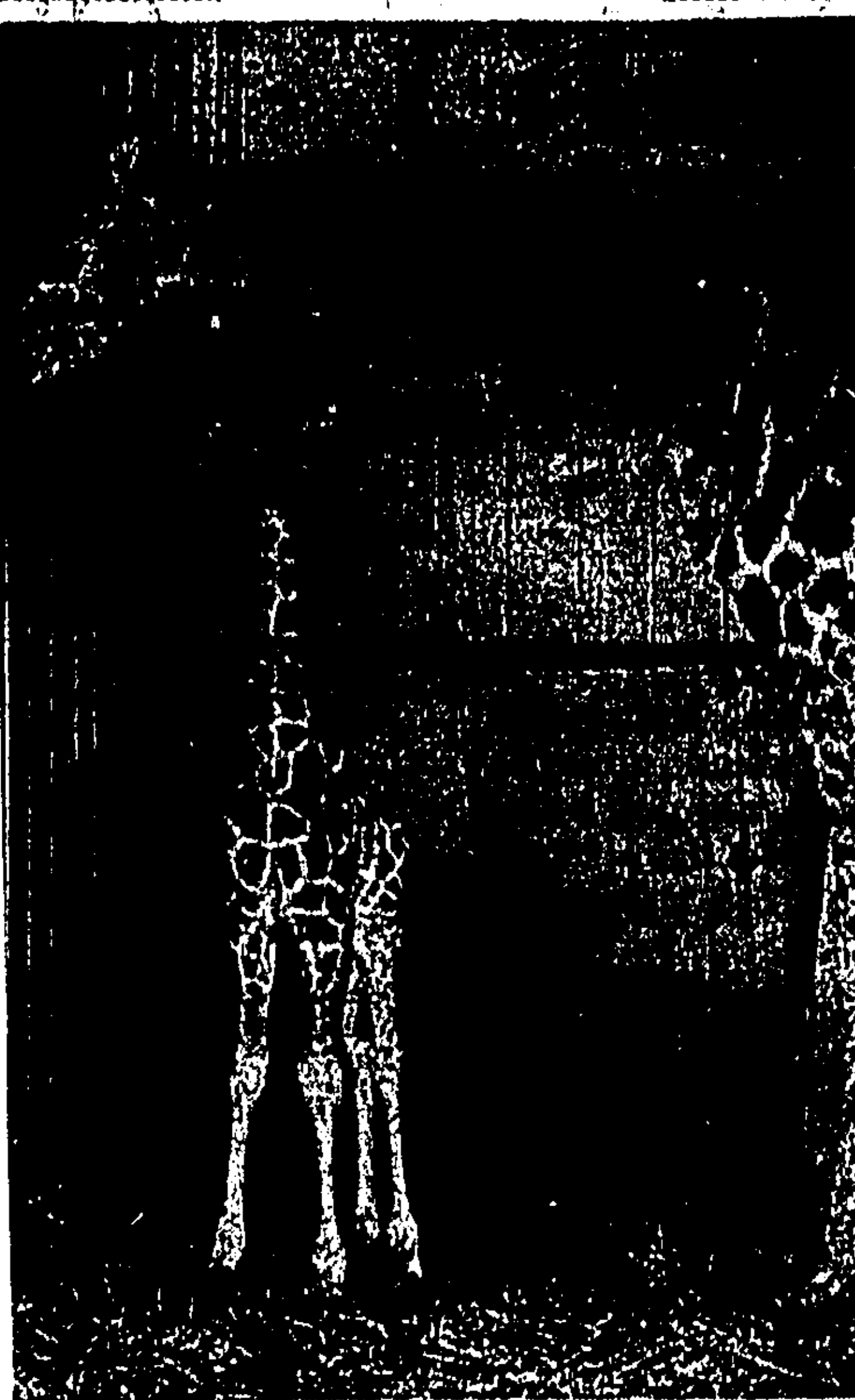
NOT CONSULTED Meanwhile in Baghdad Dr Nadim el Pachachi, Iraq's Economics Minister, said today that Britain had never consulted Iraq about the possibility of building an oil pipeline through Turkey to the Mediterranean.

He said Iraq was prepared to consider such a project when it was consulted, in the light of the economic and political circumstances of the time.

Dr Pachachi was replying to a statement by Mr Aubrey Jones, the British Minister of Fuel, who told Parliament this week that a survey of a possible route for a pipeline from Iraq via Turkey had been undertaken.

This would avoid Syria where three key pumping stations have recently been put out of action. —Reuters.

Britain's Newest Giraffe



Terry, the new baby giraffe of London Zoo, is pictured with his mother. The baby was named Terry after Terry Spinks, British lightweight boxer and Olympic Gold Medalist. —Express Photo.

Agitation Over Ceding Burma Villages

By MAX MCCRATH

Rangoon, Dec. 11.

University students belonging to the minority Kachin race who had been agitating over the past weeks against the proposed handing over to China of three villages in the Kachin State, North Burma, have appealed to the Chinese Prime Minister, Mr Chou En-lai to forgo claims to these villages.

In an open letter addressed to Mr Chou and released to the press, the Kachin students said the proposal to cede villages to China was "as good as finalised."

(According to a tentative proposal, three villages of Hpa-maw, Gawlam and Kangfang, 80 miles north of Myitthaingyi, capital of Kachin State will be ceded to China in return for China will recognise the existing frontier with Burma.)

In their statement of "grievances" set out in the letter the students said an "alarming situation" was developing in the areas concerned.

The village tracts cover 500 miles with a population of over 5,000.

Resistance

The students' letter stated the "report of the proposal (to transfer villages to China) has created resistance movements among the Kachin people and has led to active protests across the country. Moreover, along with widespread distress and dissatisfaction, is looming up a danger of developing racial prejudice which had been nurtured by former colonialists with all injustice, bitterness and strife that it entails."

The authors of the letter who signed themselves as chairman and secretary of the "Kachin Students Education Action Committee" said the areas in question had been administered for

the past 50 years by Kachin chieftains "owing allegiance to none."

The areas had been an integral part of Burma when the country became independent, the writers state.

Deplorable

"Guided by our sympathy for our parents and brothers who have become victims of a deplorable situation and by our passionate love for our homeland, we cannot help but appeal to Your Excellency to let the disputed areas remain as they were eight years ago (when Burma became an independent republic)," the letter added. —Reuters.

Revolutionaries Warned

Havana, Dec. 11.

The Government of President Fulgencio Batista today gave the broken remnants of a revolutionary movement in Eastern Cuba 48 hours to surrender or face extinction.

The ultimatum became effective at noon and will end at noon on Thursday. It was announced in a proclamation issued at the town of Niquero, base of operations for the army's mopping-up activities against the rebels.

The proclamation said that Army liaison aircraft equipped with loudspeakers will advise the rebels where to present themselves for the surrender. —United Press.

SUEZ SALVAGE OPERATIONS SPEEDED UP

London, Dec. 11. The Admiralty announced today that since the beginning of clearing operations in Port Said harbour, three tugs, one floating crane, one floating dock and two hoppers have been refloated by British and French salvage teams.

A channel, 72 metres wide and 7.6 metres deep has been dredged into Port Said harbour as well as another channel inside the harbour of 54.8 metres wide and 11 metres deep. All except the largest ships can now go up the Suez Canal as far as El Cap, the Admiralty said.

The Admiralty also announced the Suez Canal tug Titan, repaired in the Canal company's shops, has begun operations again. The Admiralty said that eight French and British ships, specialised in the refloating of wrecks were now in the Red Sea, ready to go into service at Suez.

These discussions were aimed at deciding on the best procedure to be followed in the Assembly, he said. He would not disclose what procedure was envisaged but the sources said the group might back an Egyptian demand for compensation from the British, French and Israeli governments. —France-Press & Reuters.

Temporary Bridge

The semi-official Middle East news agency said that Egyptian army engineers this morning completed the construction of a temporary bridge across the Suez Canal at El Kantara.

The Ferdan bridge, which had been the main pathway across the Canal, was demolished during Anglo-French military operations.

The agency said that units of the Egyptian army engineering corps had already crossed the Canal to Sinai and begun repairing railroads and telephone lines destroyed by Israeli forces before their withdrawal from Sinai.

The French tug Abeille 26, the most powerful in Europe, left Brest today for the Suez Canal, to take part in clearing operations.

Meanwhile it was learned that Egypt might seek action in the United Nations General Assembly to obtain compensation for alleged damage caused by the British and French in the Suez Canal area and by Israel in the Sinai Desert.

A meeting in New York of the Asian-African group of states today heard a statement by Dr Mahmoud Fawzi, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, about the damage he said the Anglo-French occupation force had caused in the Canal area.

Preliminary

He also alleged that Israel had carried out a "scorched earth" policy in the Sinai Desert before withdrawing her forces.

Mr Hashim Jawad of Iraq, Chairman of the 28-nation group, said after the meeting that Dr Fawzi had made a preliminary statement with a view to further discussions in the group in a few days' time.

Refugees Try To Enter Switzerland

Paris, Dec. 11.

Switzerland refused entry today to 300 disappointed Hungarian refugees who broke out of a guarded French army camp near Besancon yesterday, French officials reported.

Men, women, and children, unhappy over conditions in the abandoned army camp, marched over 30 miles of cold, snowy roads to Morlaix on the Swiss border in hopes of entering Switzerland.

They arrived at midnight and most took refuge in the Morlaix Town Hall while their representatives negotiated with Swiss authorities. They danced while they waited.

JOBS AWAIT

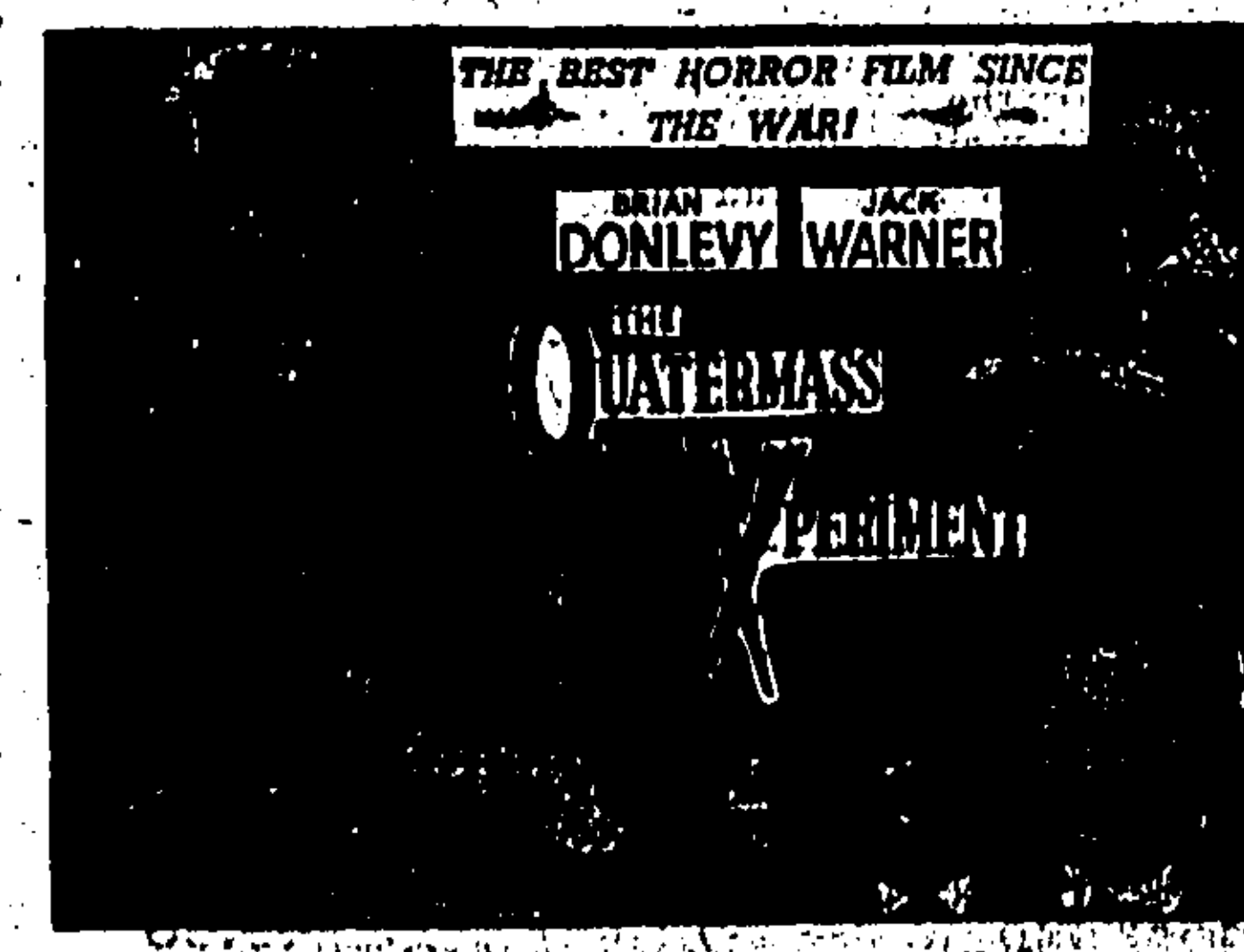
The Hungarians had hoped to ask the American Embassy in Geneva for asylum in the United States, but they learned they could not enter Switzerland, which has given refuge to thousands of their countrymen.

French authorities announced some 200 refugees would be taken back to the Valdhoon Army camp and that others would go to nearby Montebellard, where factory jobs awaited them.

The refugees offered no explanation of their dissatisfaction but some persons believed they were unmoved because of shooting practice by French troops at a nearby gunnery field—a reminder of their grim days in Hungary—United Press.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★

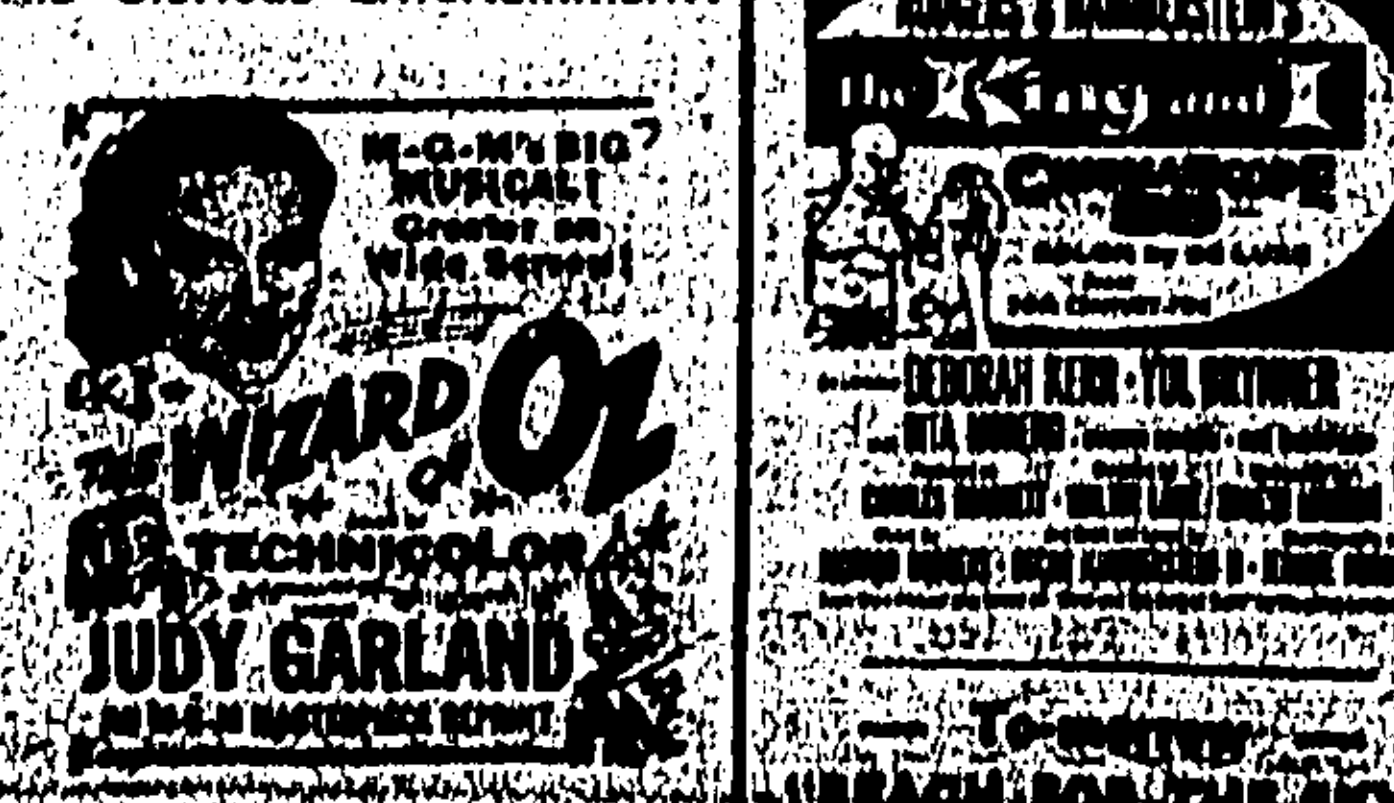


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REACH FOR THE SKY

Tyre Inventor's Daughter Dead

Canterbury, Dec. 11. Mrs. Jean McClintock, who watched her father John Boyd Dunlop make what is believed to have been the world's first pneumatic tyre, died in a Canterbury nursing home aged 70, it was reported today.

Mrs. McClintock used to recall that as a girl of eight in Belfast, her father, a veterinary surgeon, got the idea of fitting "the fastest wheels in the world" to her brother's tricycle.

Dunlop patented his pneumatic tyre in 1888. He died in 1921.—China Mail Special.

Duke Starts Tour Of New Zealand

Wellington, Dec. 11. The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Paraparaumu airport near Wellington, tonight on a brief visit to New Zealand.

Twenty-five minutes earlier he had left Ohakea air force base where he landed in a DC-6 which had carried him across the Tasman Sea from Australia.

"Just like the old fashioned fliers," the Duke said as he stepped out of the National Airways Corporation Heron aircraft to face a barrage of photographers' flashbulbs.

BLINDED BY FLASHES

The Governor-General, Sir Willoughby Norrie, and the Prime Minister, Mr. Sidney Holland, temporarily blinded by the flashes, groped as they exchanged handshakes with the Duke.

Once he had recovered from the glare, the Duke, who wore the uniform of an Admiral of the Fleet, smiled broadly. Hundreds of people who crammed into the air terminal building gave him a resounding cheer.—Reuter.

London, Dec. 11. The British Consul-General at Rotterdam, Mr. Evans, has been appointed to succeed Mr. A. C. Stewart as British envoy at Seoul, the Foreign Office announced today.—France-Press.

TIMES TOO DANGEROUS TO

QUARREL SAYS PEER House Of Lords Debate Suez Crisis

London, Dec. 10.

The times are too dangerous for Britain and the United States to quarrel, the Marquis of Salisbury, Lord President of the Council, told the House of Lords today.

He was opening, on the Government, a two-day debate on the Middle East crisis.

Britain and America had not been marching in step over the Middle East, he said. There had been faults on both sides.

UN Given Chance

Throughout the past few years as a result of Western inaction, the Middle East had been "slowly, steadily sliding away into the abyss of communism." Now a new chance had been given the United Nations to preserve it from that disaster.

Lord Salisbury said it was only when Britain got assurances she considered adequate that she decided to withdraw her troops from Egypt. She had made her position clear that there must be an adequate United Nations force to carry out the terms of the United Nations resolution of November 2.

"We steadfastly refused to move from that position in spite of virulent attacks in the United Nations and a lack of support from some of those from whom we might naturally have expected to get it," he said.

Lord Stirling, for the Labour Opposition, said his party regarded November as "one of the most disastrous and humiliating months in our history."

The Anglo-French intervention was "a highly dangerous one" which might have caused hostilities to spread. It had created conditions which would make it far more difficult to get a peaceful settlement in the area.

More Difficult

"We have aroused the hostility and animosity of the whole of the Arab peoples. We have been instrumental in giving Russia a place in the Middle East which, but for our action, she would have found it more difficult to secure," he said.

Lord Layton, a Liberal peer, said it was "the height of folly" for any country to challenge the Soviet Union unless assured of United States support.

Therefore it was clearly out of order to take risks which might lead to disturbance without first informing America which might be pushed into a position of the greatest gravity.

This doctrine did not mean all must become satellites of the United States.

Lord Halifax, former British Ambassador in Washington, said the important task now was to rebuild as soon as possible the Anglo-American comradeship which had been shaken by events in the Middle East.

A Labour peer, Lord Winstone, described the Suez episode as "a moral, political and economic Dunkirk."

"We have witnessed an ignominious finish to one of the shortest wars in our history," he said. "We have little to show for it."

Reconstruction

Lord Killearn, Conservative, a former British Ambassador to Egypt, said he believed the Government did the right thing in the wrong way at the wrong time.

Lord Alexander of Hillsborough, leader of the Opposition, said to make the nation willing to pull together to retrieve the situation, needed a reconstruction of the Government. If the reconstruction did not appear satisfactory there should be a general election.—Reuter.

US-Swiss Atomic Agreement

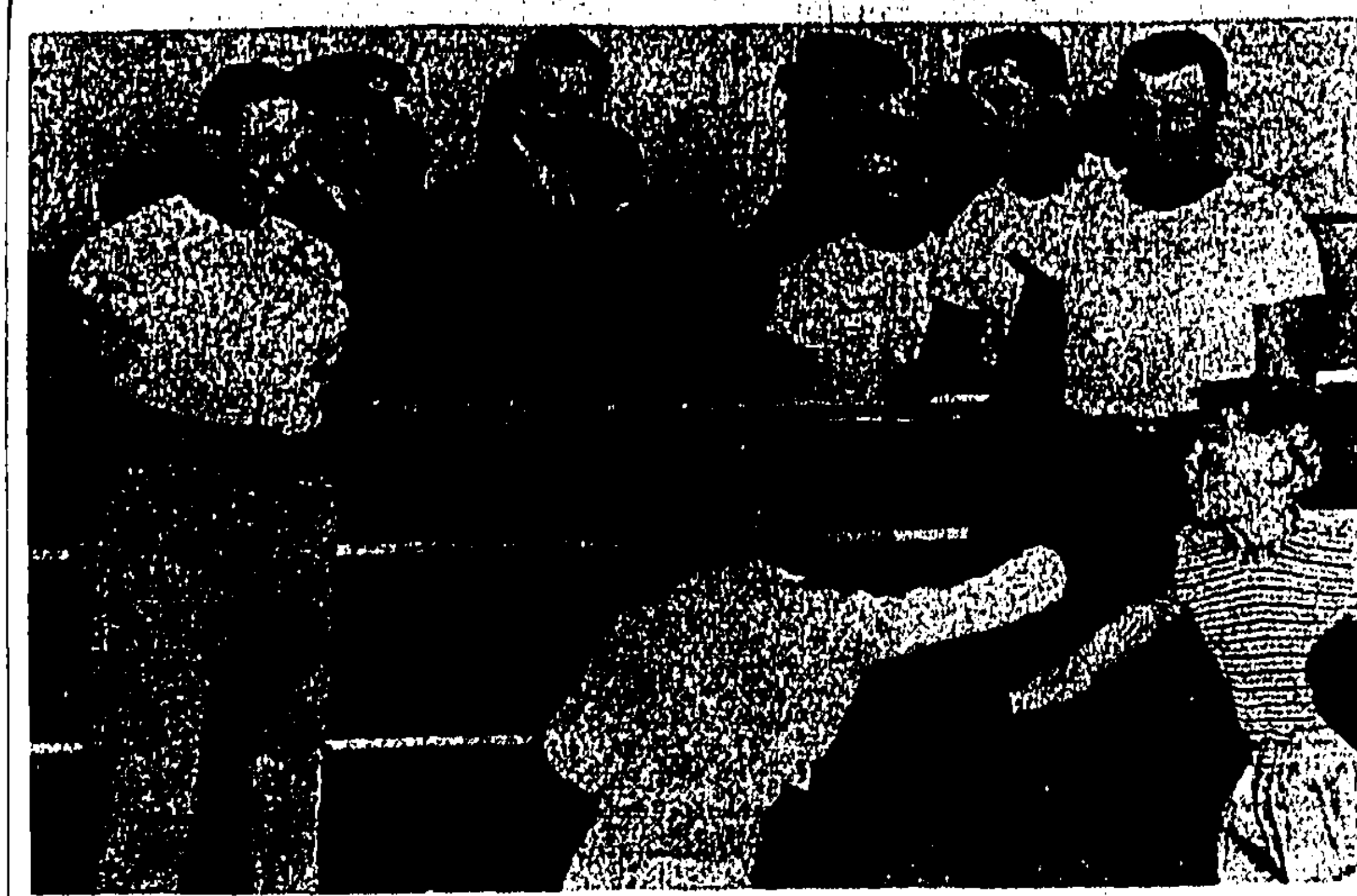
Berne, Dec. 11.

The Council of States, the 40-member Upper House of the Swiss Federal Parliament, today unanimously approved an atomic co-operation agreement with the United States under which Switzerland will receive uranium fuel.

The agreement has not yet been discussed in the National Council, the Lower House, where its passage is expected to be more uneasy.

A clause providing for American inspectors' accompanied by Swiss officials, to check the use of the uranium supplies has aroused the hostility of underground defenders of Swiss neutrality.

But many observers thought that the price of oil, which has risen sharply in Switzerland, has been a strong inducement to the Swiss to accept the agreement. The Swiss are also concerned about the possibility of a general atomic war.



Duke Visits Boys' Club

Fateful Day For Japan In United Nations

New York, Dec. 12.

The Security Council meets today (1600 GMT) to reconsider Japan's application for admission to the United Nations.

Hungarian Resolution

PAKISTAN URGES ACTION

United Nations, Dec. 11.

The Begum Ikra Mullah, speaking in the debate on Hungary before the General Assembly, today on behalf of Pakistan, said: "Wrong does not become right and injustice become justice merely because it went on for some time. That is why the Pakistan delegation is sponsoring the 19-power resolution."

"My government does not believe in taking neutral positions on issues. It studies each issue on its merits and acts on principles."

"Nations have an inherent right, guaranteed by charter, to belong to whatever pact or alliances they wish, but they retain their independence of thought and action."

-FAR OFF

"Hungary is far off, but injustice against Hungary has repercussions all through the world. The cases of Ethiopia, Czechoslovakia and Manchuria should not be forgotten and if the world ignores the agony of Hungary it does so at its own peril."

The Begum stressed the fact that it is necessary to keep on repeating demands for the admission of United Nations observers to Hungary and for the withdrawal of foreign troops. She added that she did not agree with those who might think these efforts futile.

The United States is unfavourable to the Indian sponsored resolution, urging United Nations Secretary-General, Dag Hammarskjöld, to go to Moscow immediately to hasten a solution of the Hungarian problem, US delegation sources said here tonight.

These sources said the resolution, co-sponsored by India, Burma, Indonesia and Ceylon, had the merit of placing on record the desire of the vast majority of the Hungarian population for the withdrawal of Soviet troops and the end of foreign intervention.

USELESS

But American sources considered it "useless" to propose resolutions between the Hungarians and Soviet authorities when the only authority which counted at present was the Soviet army.

In the circumstances, a visit of the Secretary-General to Hungary was unlikely to bring about a peaceful settlement, they said. The only way to bring about a peaceful settlement was through a general atomic war.

Britain's Duke of Edinburgh, recently in Australia as part of his world tour, visited the district surrounding Sydney. Here he is looking in on a boxing match at the South Sydney Police Boys' Club.—Express Photo.

Yugoslav Ex-Minister On Trial

Belgrade, Dec. 11.

Milovan Djilas, former Yugoslav Vice-President, who is accused of spreading hostile propaganda abroad will go on trial tomorrow, the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug said today.

Djilas, 45, who was arrested on November 19 is charged with publishing an article in the foreign press in which "he distorted facts and incorrectly informed world public opinion on Yugoslavia's foreign policy and internal order thus giving food for a slander campaign against Yugoslavia."

It will be the second time he will be standing trial for "spreading hostile propaganda"—on January 18, 1955, he received a suspended 18-month prison sentence for criticising the Yugoslav leadership in an interview with a New York newspaper.

If he is found guilty of another crime before January 1958 he is liable to have to serve the full 18-month suspended sentence on top of any subsequent penalty. The charge he faces tomorrow carries a maximum sentence of life imprisonment.

A sallow thin-faced Montenegrin Djilas was once an intimate of President Tito—before and after the Marshal came to power—and is an ex-member of the Yugoslav Communist Party Politburo.

The Tanjug report said passes for the Djilas trial had been given to representatives of Yugoslav and foreign press and other interested firms.—Reuter.

Memorial To Pioneer Socialist

London, Dec. 11.

A bronze bust of Keir Hardie, pioneer Socialist and first Labour Member of Parliament, was presented to the House of Commons at a ceremony here today.

Hardie who was born just 100 years ago was elected to Parliament in 1892. He died in 1915.

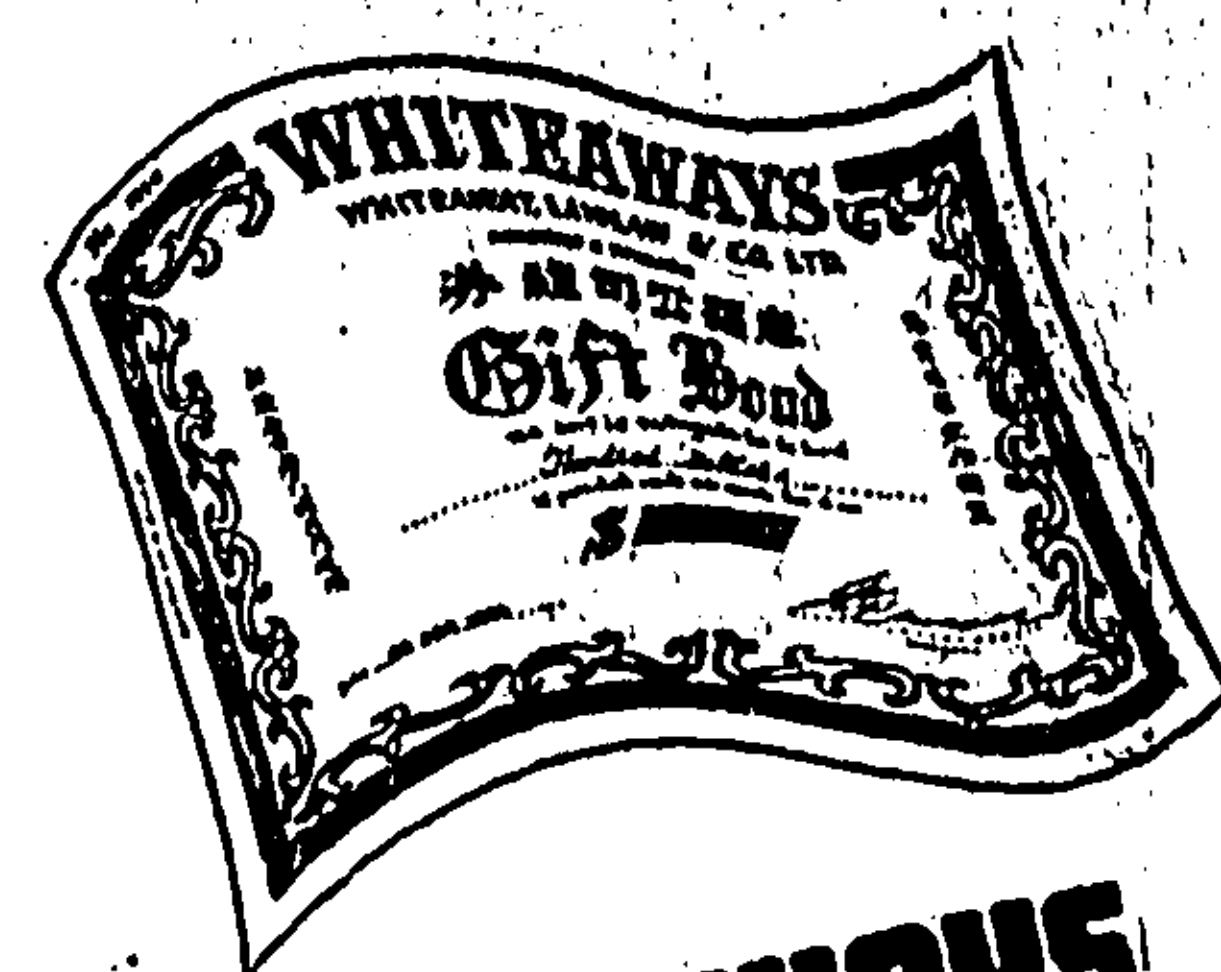
Always dressed in a plain cloth cap he stood out among his fellow MPs who in those days invariably dressed in morning coat tails and shiny top hats.

His bust, the work of sculptor Benno Schatz, was presented to the House by the Keir Hardie Memorial Committee.

At today's ceremony attended by members of all parties, Lord Samuel, Viscount, Liberal Peer, said of Hardie:

"His bust was a symbol, a reminder, a protest, perhaps a potent."

Mr. Hugh Gaitskell, leader of the Labour Party, said that Hardie's position was "a reminder of the fact that the Labour Party has a long and noble history."



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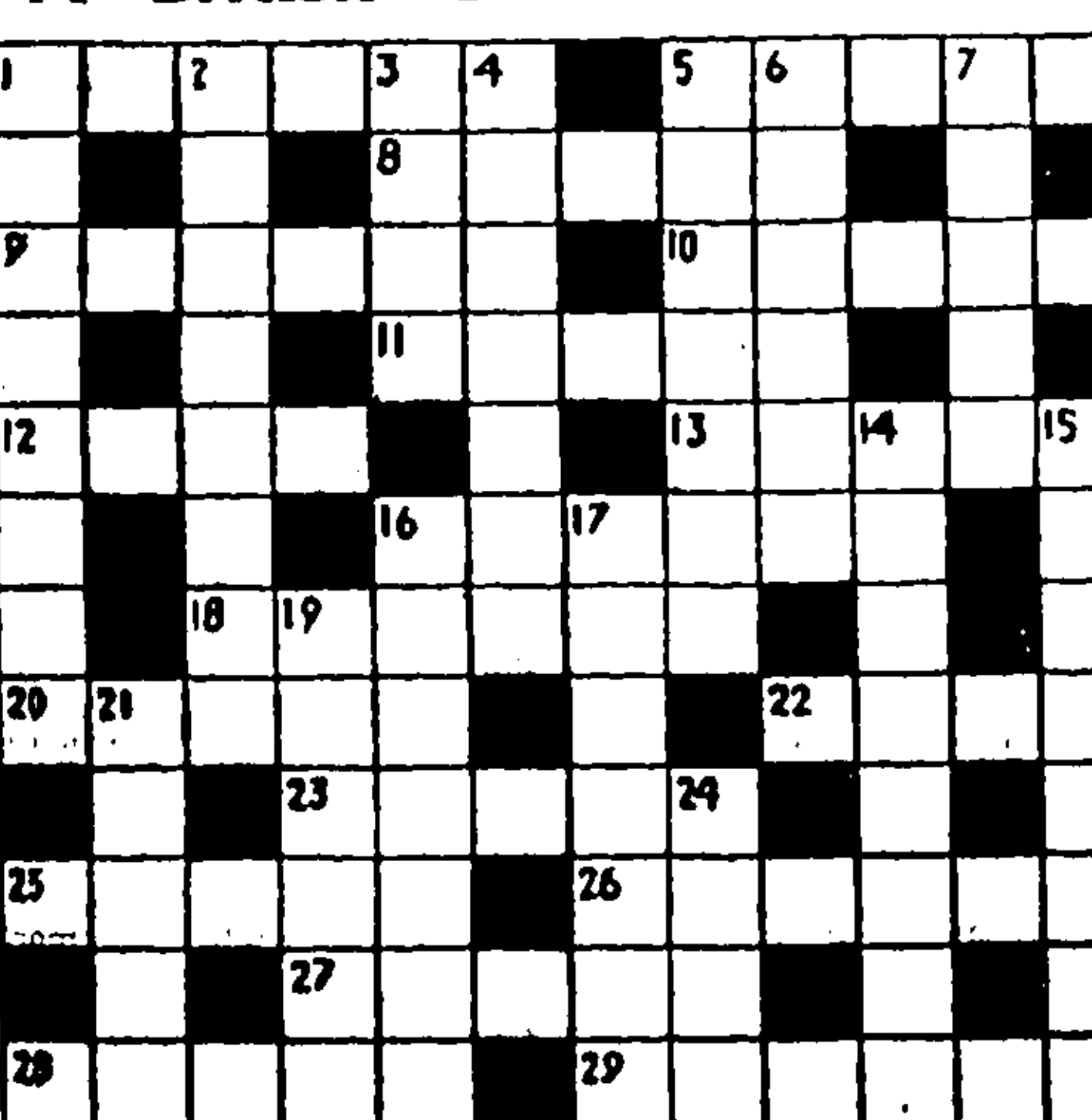
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A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1 Usage (6).
- 5 Plunges (6).
- 8 Bird (5).
- 9 Menace (6).
- 10 Attracts (6).
- 11 Kind of beer (5).
- 12 Devastation (4).
- 13 Vex (3).
- 14 Demure (6).
- 15 Whipped (6).
- 20 Reception-room (5).
- 22 Bathing-place (4).
- 23 Courtroom (5).
- 25 Seta (5).
- 26 Tame (6).
- 27 Swale (6).
- 28 Pronounce with a bit of a stutter (5).
- 29 Not long past (6).

DOWN

- 1 Cliques (8).
- 2 Continued existence (8).
- 3 Spoken (4).
- 4 Bullfighter (7).
- 5 Expunged (7).
- 6 Hardens (6).
- 7 Pitchers (6).
- 14 Pose (8).
- 15 Demonstrator (8).
- 16 Lizard on TV, perhaps (7).
- 17 Liberate (7).
- 19 Easily managed (6).
- 21 Vigilant (5).
- 24 Learning (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1 Exhume, 5 Alder, 8 Arid, 9 Course, 11 Oscar, 12 Lacer, 14 Miss, 16 Essay, 18 Abode, 19 Odds, 20 Enraged, 22 Actor, 23 Turcon, 26 Ever, 27 Tired, 28 Solent, Down: 1 Etch, 2 Heal, 3 Mass, 4 Erects, 5 Adorned, 6 Duchess, 7 Surveys, 10 Rapid(s), 13 Warrant, 14 Monster, 15 Severed, 17 Sower, 19 Orates, 21 Sure, 22 Dene, 23 Knot.

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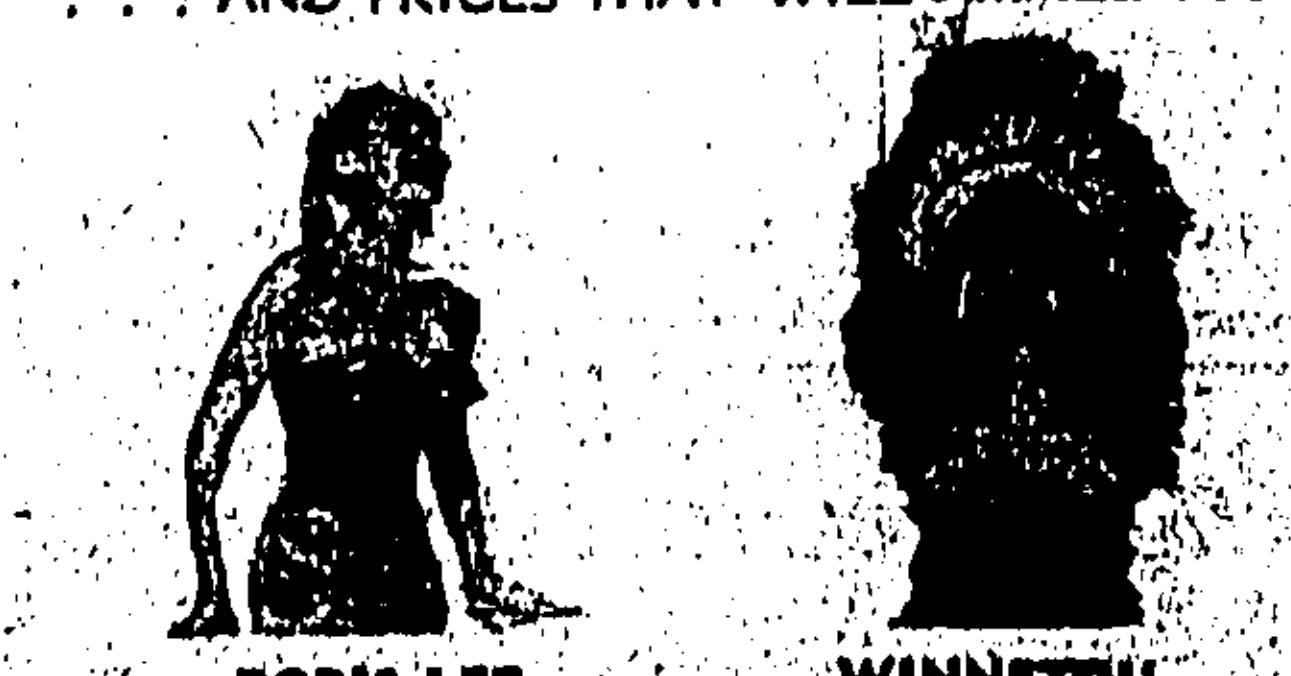
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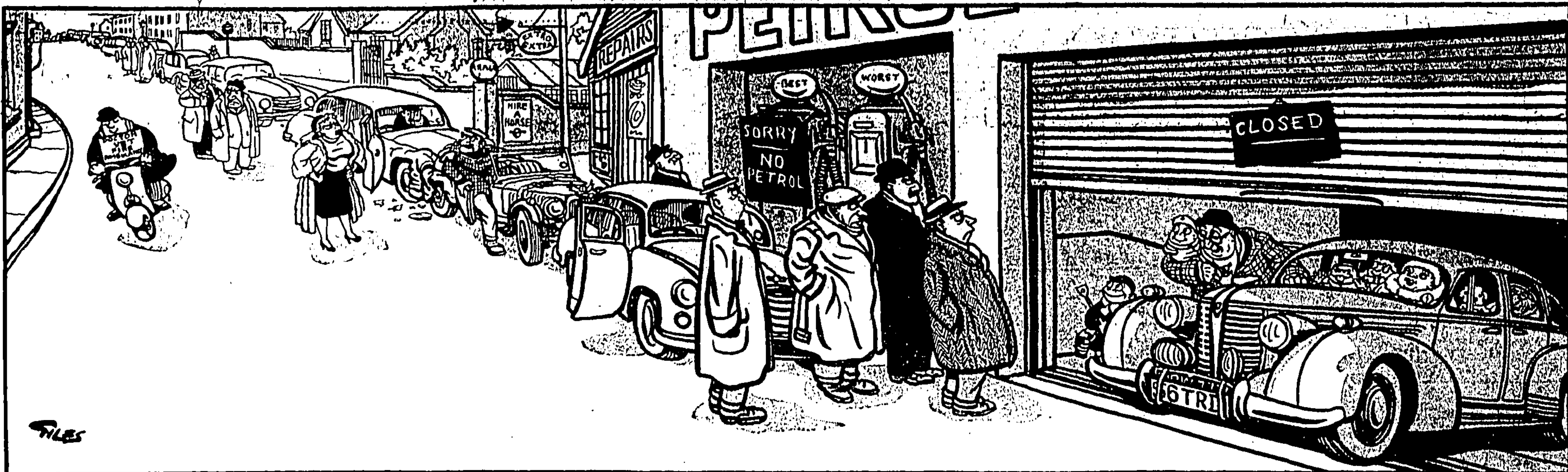
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NATHANIEL GUBBINS

AS Christmas is almost upon us your Uncle Nat and the Plucky Little Woman considered it was time to think up some funny jokes, particularly as your Uncle is frequently accused of being serious minded.

Since pantomime and radio gags usually have a topical twist, we thought we might give free assistance to comedians and script writers already struggling to invent comedy lines about Nasser, UNO, and Dag Hammarskjöld.

★ ★ ★
Our first attempt was in the style of the cross-talk comedians.

"If Nasser worked in a hospital as a bone manipulator for rheumatism do UNO what he'd be called?"

"No. Do UNO what Nasser would be called if he worked in a hospital as a bone manipulator for rheumatism?"

"Yes. He would be called a Cairopractor."

After this we invented something even worse, such as, "When the United Nations gets its teeth with be on the National Health Service?" and a really shocking effort by your Uncle, never any good at this sort of thing.

"Who was that lady I saw you with last night?"

"Dag was no lady. Dag was my Hammarskjöld."

Your Uncle tried to explain to the P.L.W. that "Hammer" had been substituted for the rolling-pin wielded by scolds in jokes of long ago, but she still didn't think it very funny.

★ ★ ★
When she was sulkingly asked to do better she let this one go:
"What is your wife doing for Christmas?"
"What is my wife doing for Christmas?"

"Yes, what is your wife doing for Christmas?"
"She's making a Suez pudding."
We both laughed miserably at that.

Kind to Tum

WE then turned to the news and found that it is National Smile Week in America. Next week will be National Mother-in-Law Week and after that National Relaxation Week and National Indigestion (Be Kind To Your Stomach) Week.

With a sharp glance at your Uncle's outline, the P.L.W. said there had evidently been a Be Kind To a Certain Stomach Week. She had noticed that all slimming diets had been abandoned. New white bread and hot rolls were being consumed in alarming quantities. So were vast mounds of creamed potatoes.

Moreover she had noticed that during the crisis a Certain Stomach had been cosseted more frequently and for longer intervals in the low tavern.

Reading from a newspaper she quoted: "Fat men have a significant predilection for alcohol."

These pot-bellied tipplers are classified by scientists as endomorphs, though it was not stated if the alcohol made them fat or if they were born fat and craved for whisky in their milk at an early age.

★ ★ ★
The P.L.W. said some lucky women had married linear ectomorphs, thin men who disliked alcohol, though she admitted they might be skinny miseries.

She thought the luckiest women of all had married mesomorphs, muscular, cheerful chaps who enjoyed an occasional drink on special occasions but knew when to leave it alone.

This statted endomorph, who was just trotting off to the low tavern, took off his overcoat, poured himself one pink gin and spent the evening at home.

Three Wise Men

STILL reading from the papers the P.L.W. said, although she couldn't understand what Eisenhower and Dulles had to smile about during National Smile Week, they were evidently a bit ahead of schedule on National Relaxation Week.

Eisenhower was playing golf and "eating a good lunch at the club" and Dulles was fishing in Florida. He was reported to be thoroughly relaxed after his thrash and taking a cocktail before dinner.

Perhaps this might inspire funny Uncle Nat to scribble a parody on Good King Wenceslaus?

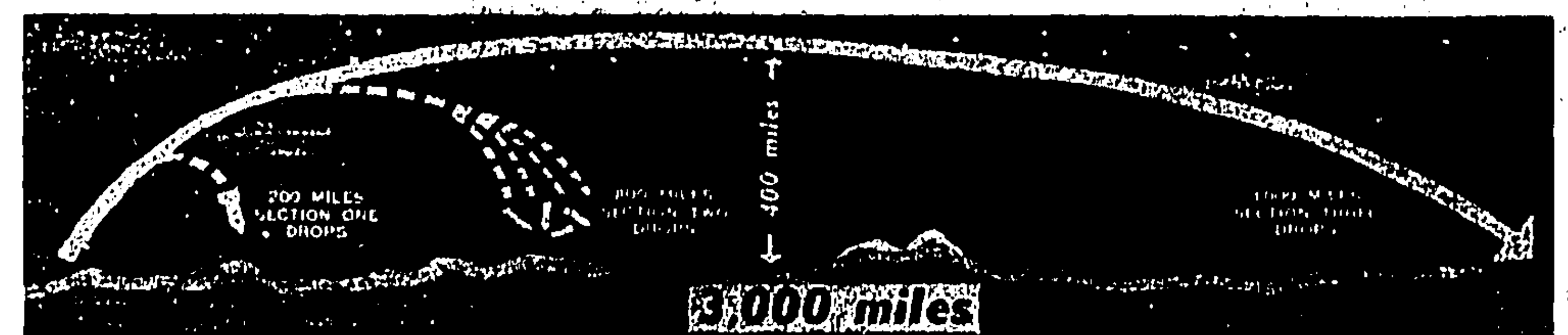
After one more pink gin the humorous uncle produced the following:
Eisenhower he looked out
On a world of trouble
Played his golf and had his lunch
Gobble, gobble, gobble.
Dulles took his fishing rod
Cocktail in a shaker
Nasser laughed at UNO
What's in that name?
Eden in Jamaica



AMERICA'S ANSWER... THREE LITTLE ROCKETS MAKE ONE SUPER ONE

TO SUPPLEMENT WHAT BULGANIN WAS
SAYING ABOUT THOSE ROCKETS

The Record Leap



NOW CONFIRMED: THIS
ASTONISHING FLIGHT
AND WHAT IT MEANS
by Chapman Pincher

A U.S. Army rocket launched secretly from Florida, has plunged into the Atlantic after a flight of 3,000 miles—three times further than any missile has flown before.

The news of this technical triumph, which was confirmed in Washington, is of supreme political significance on two counts:

① **THOUGH** this 80ft. long missile was not an operational device which could be used in war, it gave practical proof that the rocket capable of delivering hydrogen bombs from continent to continent is far from being a science-fiction fantasy.

② **IT** provided the best evidence yet that the Americans are at least on level terms with the Russians in the race to develop this missile and may well be ahead.

Allied radar has detected many tests of Russian rockets with

ranges up to 1,000 miles, but there is no evidence of anything in this inter-continental category.

The defence chiefs consider that it is absolutely vital that the Russians should not get a monopoly of even a few weeks on the missile missile. Free from fear of rocket retaliation, the Russians could possibly gain their political ends by threat alone.

Marshal Bulganin's announcement that he had contemplated rocket reprisals against Britain for intervening in Egypt last month strengthened Allied fears that the Russians will take an extremely tough line if they get the missile missile first.

HISTORIC

The historic, 3,000-mile flight was achieved by making a three-section, composite missile out of existing rockets which separately could fly only a few hundred miles.

SECTION 1, forming the base, was a 60ft. Redstone rocket—a scaled-up and much improved version of the German V2. It

was designed by the V2's inventor, Werner von Braun, who is now a U.S. citizen.

SECTION 2 was a side-by-side cluster of four Sergeant rockets, each about 20ft. long. The Sergeant is an improved version of the Corporal ground-to-air rocket, now being supplied to the British Army, and can carry an atomic warhead.

SECTION 3 was a single Sergeant. The missile took off from Patrick air base, Florida, powered only by the Redstone's mighty engine.

After a flight of about 200 miles, the Redstone fell away and the motors of the four mid-section Sergeants simultaneously roared into life. They thrust the missile a further 800 miles before they fell away.

Then the tip Sergeant, with its own power boosting its already enormous speed, flew on alone, finally falling into the sea east of the West Indies after an arched flight of 3,000 miles which had taken it 400 miles above the earth.

The scientists were surprised—and relieved—to find that the final rocket had not been badly burned up by the terrific friction as it plunged seawards through the atmosphere.

Before this flight it was feared that this heat-barrier effect on re-entry might be a near-insuperable difficulty in developing the missile missile.

This U.S. achievement comes at a time when Britain's programme to develop the missile missile is beginning to gather momentum.

URGENT

Firms are being switched from the development of small, guided anti-aircraft weapons to this new long-range work as a matter of extreme urgency.

The Woomera range in the Australian desert is now being cleared and instrumented to cope with rockets capable of covering 1,500 miles and more.

The missile men have far to go before they can transform a contrivance like that fired from Florida into a piece of operational hardware capable of delivering an H-bomb with anything like the accuracy required.

But the ease with which this flight has been accomplished suggests that 10 years, and possibly five, will see both East and West stockpiling push-button weapons so devastating that neither side will dare to push the buttons.

BIGGEST CHRISTMAS SPREAD

By GEORGE HOGAN

THE number of shopping days to Christmas begins to worry the average British housewife some weeks before the festive season, but there is one "family" that has to look much farther ahead and which begins to make plans for the next Yuletide spread almost before the current one is consumed and the trimmings tidied away.

This is the vast family of British servicemen, their wives and children, at home and overseas; and "Mum" in their case is the NAAFI. Early in last New Year NAAFI headquarters were already estimating the requirements for

Christmas 1956. Some orders were placed, shipping space booked, warehouses and cold storage accommodation organised at home and overseas. British forces in some 20 countries, as well as those on the home front, were being catered for, and Christmas supplies began to flow into such places as Aden, Malia, Cyprus, Gibraltar, Hong Kong, Singapore, Korea, Ceylon, Kenya, Jamaica, British Guiana, and even to a little speck of an island away in the Pacific—Christmas Island itself, where Britain's first hydrogen bomb is to be exploded next year.

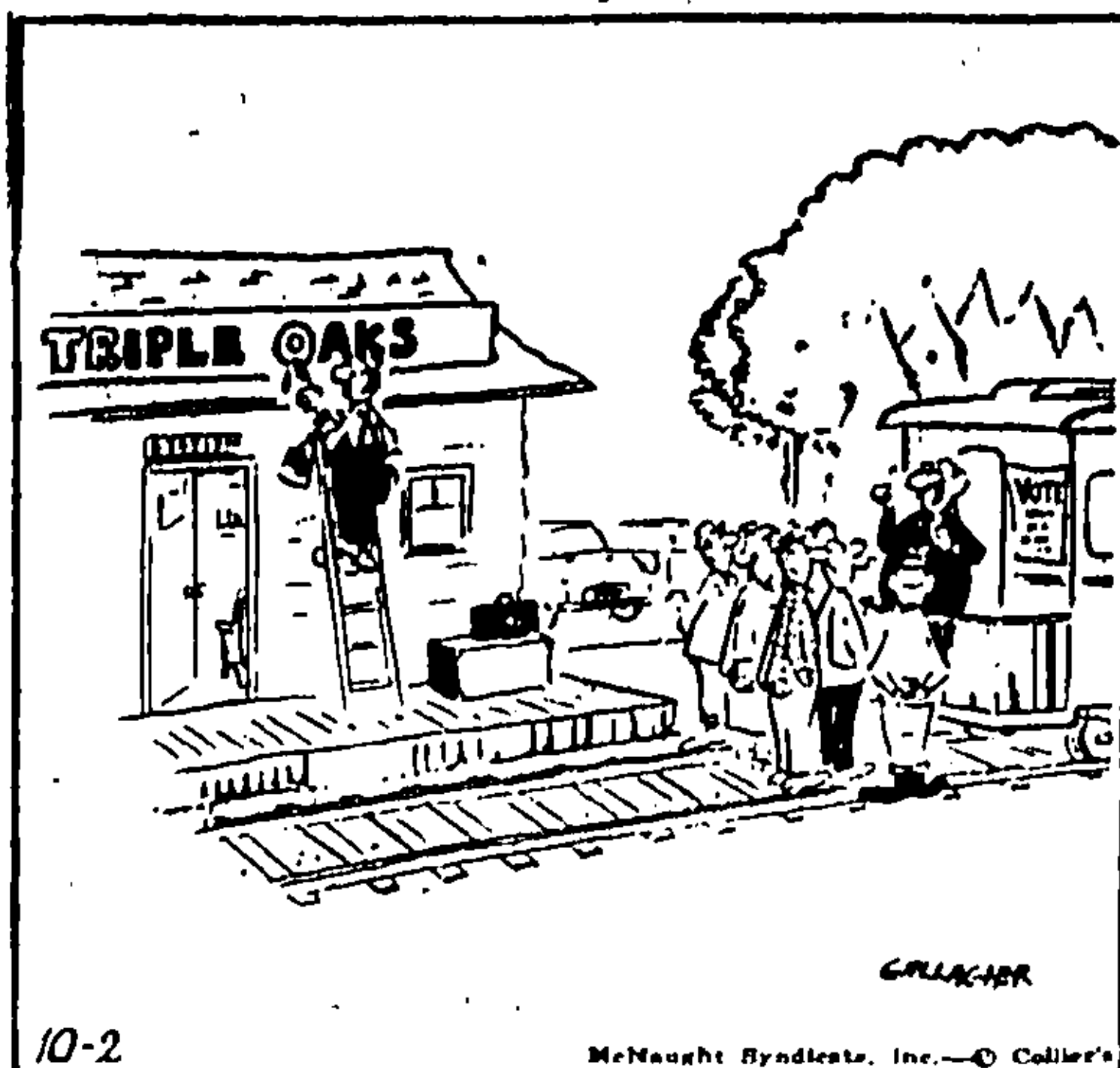
The NAAFI has a vast staff of volunteers, the best and brightest of the British Empire, who are already working on the Christmas 1956 spread. They are already working on the Christmas 1956 spread. They are already working on the Christmas 1956 spread.

NAAFI bakeries in Britain also produced 10,000 lbs of mince and expect to turn out some 200,000 mince pies for home consumption alone, some 11,000 lbs of decorated slap cakes and 11,000 Yule logs and gateaux.

Chocolates, too—for the modern serviceman has a sweet tooth. NAAFI has obtained 303,000 boxes of chocolates just for Christmas, and 48,000 tins of biscuits. In addition, an enormous quantity of wine, beer, spirits, cigarettes and cigars have been assembled for the great day.

Not have the Service children been forgotten? Wherever they may be. For them 318,000 toys are ready, 238,000 balloons await, the blow-down, 112,000 paper hats and 77,000 boxes of crackers. And all ready waiting for the word "GO!"

This Funny World



"Yes, friends, my own dear mother was born right here in the little town of Iple Aka!"

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

I DISAGREE with the idea expressed again recently in a review, that a novelist must take his characters seriously. It is much more fun if he laughs at the whole thing off.

"Elspeth asked herself over and over again, did she truly love Ralph?" We are all used to that kind of question. It is only tolerable in some such form as: "Elspeth, a boring little puppet, if ever there was one, asked herself over and over again the foolish question which can be of no interest to any intelligent adult, did she really love that tedious jackanapes Ralph. Who cares? Not the inquisitively stupid reader, I hope."

"The Cream of the Cabmen"

HERE are some more tributes to this anthology. An unconventional masterpiece, pungent, factual, revealing. (Alan Ladd)

A mine of information for the student of cabmen's names. (Yehudi Menuhin)

Impartial, unimpeachable, uninhibited. (New Zealand Times)

Here is no cheap sensationalism. (Hardware Argus and Messenger)

Can be safely left about a house where there are children. (Singapore Sentinel)

One down

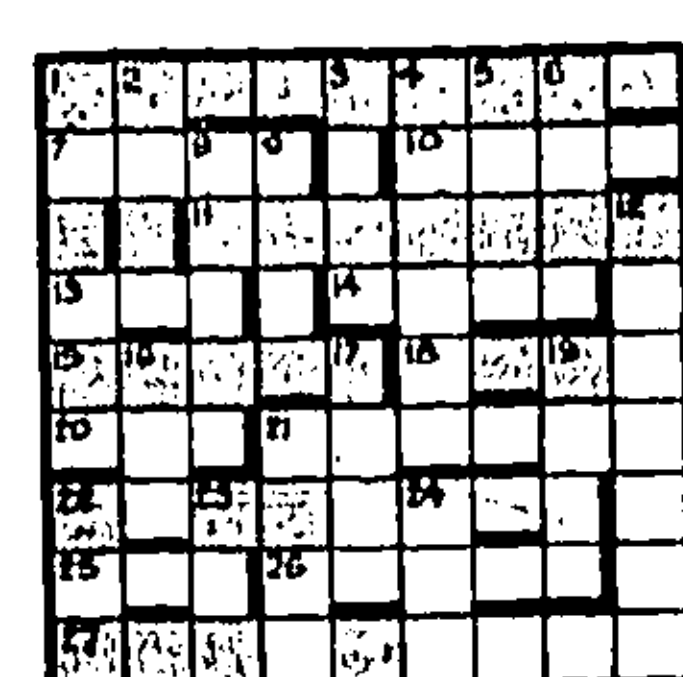
SIR,—I have been reading your column for 87 years, but this is the end. I thought you were an honest man, but you are not. I read Mrs. Huxtable's letter about those Huntingdonshire cabmen. Such a letter, with its covert sneers at cabmen's names, should have been sent into the dustbin, where doubtless it would have remained. Old vegetables and other rubbish. That you, of all men, should have published this libellous outpouring of a jaundiced prig is incredible. Let us leave it at that.

Veteran Reader

The duel

"A CONDUCTOR," remarks a critic, "can convey a rebuke by a lift of the eye."

CROSSWORD



The shaded squares spell out a comment to gladden the heart of Miss Nancy Spain.

Across
1. To the top of every tree promoted. (Gilbert)
2. Lord High Executioner had a little one. (4)
3. Admit with no centre. (4)
4. This is upset in a label. (7)
5. Preserve holder. (3)
6. Potentate terminus. (1) Across
7. Regarding. (2) backward girl. (4)
8. A sin makes. (4)
9. Overt of my thumb. (3)
10. Dispute. (5)
11. Most of Luxor is followed by a family man's I.O.U.A. (5)
12. Rotten in London. (3)
13. Racecourse nuisance. (5)
14. Not sound. (1) (2-5)
Down
1. The prophet of a fiery chariot. (6)
2. Permit. (4)
3. Foreign one may emerge as a head. (4)
4. That potentate again... and he's great. (4)
5. A sort of the North. (4)
6. Father of a dog's struggle. (6)
7. A brush for a dog's nose. (4)
8. One spell of something banned. (6)
9. A noble court may well be this. (6)
10. Magic one made a him. (3)
11. Tires a kind. (4)
12. Miss O'Donoghue. (4)
13. The name of a down excellent in these. (4)
14. There is a... (4)
15. A certain one. (4)
16. Town. (4)
17. Centre. (4)
18. A Y. (4)

JACOBY ON BRIDGE

South Overcomes Bad Distribution

By OSWALD JACOBY

IT'S always uncomfortable when the opponents trump a good trick. But it is still possible to make the best of a bad situation.

West opened the ace of hearts and continued with the queen of hearts at the second trick. The average declarer would have played the king of hearts from the dummy, thus losing the game contract. East would return a club, after ruffing

NORTH 19	
♠ K J 10 6 3	
♥ K 4 3	
♦ 5 4 3	
♣ Q 3	
WEST EAST	
♠ 4 Q J 10	♠ 7 2
♥ K J 2	♥ Q 10 8 7 6
♦ K J 8 7 5	♦ 10 9 8 6 4
SOUTH (D)	
♠ A Q 9 8 5	
♥ 9 8 7 6 5	
♦ A	
♣ A 2	
Both sides vul.	
♠ South West North East	♠
1 ♠ Double 3 ♠ Pass	
4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass	
Opening lead—♥ A	

dummy's king of hearts, and the defenders would thus get two high hearts, a heart ruff, and the king of clubs, defeating the contract.

When the declarer was Charles J. Solomon of Philadelphia no such misfortune overtook him. He recognized the situation and refused to play the king of hearts from the dummy at the second trick.

This simple play was effective. West had to lead a third heart, since any shift would enable declarer to draw trumps. East ruffed the king of hearts and returned a club, but it was now too late. Charley put up the ace of clubs, ruffed a heart with one of dummy's high trumps, and drew trumps. He was then able to lead his last heart, now established, and discard the losing club from the dummy. The rest was easy.

What do you do?

Q—The bidding has been: North East South West

1 N.T. Pass

You, South, hold:

♠ A 5 4 3 2 ♣ A Q J 7 4 3 2

What do you do?

A—Bid six no-trump. The combined total is 23 to 25 points, and your long suit should provide enough tricks. Since the opening lead may be important, tell the enemy nothing at all.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold:

♠ A 5 4 3 2 ♣ A Q J 7 4 3 2

What do you do?

Answer: Tomorrow

YOUR BIRTHDAY ... By STELLA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

BORN today, you have a strong nature which wants a thing eagerly, yet you may not on impulse rather than reason to get it. You have a great deal of temperance and are at times so moody that even your closest friends are not sure of what you intend. This as you grow older, can be controlled if you will only learn to stop, look around you and listen before jumping to conclusions. Your judgment, upon mature consideration, is good. But your whims of fancy, when you act on impulse, can be disastrous.

You are ambitious and want to get ahead in the world. You have a magnetic personality and will make a host of friends. You enjoy being among people and probably will do best in some kind of a job which calls for your appearance before the public. Your particular talents would help you do well as a defence attorney, in politics—or on the stage. Be sure to make your birthday star in life and then here.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)—Take care of important matters during the daytime. When evening comes, relax and let the world go by!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)—Treat any new scheme very carefully before committing yourself. Think and true situations are the best.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—There are full prospects for love and romance. Plan an evening of surprises for your loved one.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 21)—Mental activity is stimulated to such a degree that you must consider plans carefully before acting.

ARIES (Mar. 22-Apr. 20)—A busy day, either at home or in the office. Accomplish a great deal of personal importance to your future.

Taurus (Apr. 21-May 21)—Apply yourself to the immediate problem at hand. Don't permit yourself to be sidetracked. Stick to your major objective.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—Save time by not worrying about the future. Just take care of today. There are important things to be done now.

CANCER (June 22-July 21)—You may find that there are

all your efforts toward the achievement of your goal. Your life may not always be a path of roses, but you can make it an easy one to your own satisfaction. More than many, you can be happy in your own life. There is apt to be more than one love in your life, but you will have found a steady one. You will become content and true. You are, at heart, home-loving and domestic.

Among those born on this date were: John Jay, statesman and jurist; William A. Vanderbilt, financier; William Lloyd Garrison, abolitionist; Laura Hope Crews, actress; Arthur Brisbane, noted editor; Sarah B. Cooper, educator; Peter F. Collier, publisher; Lillian Nordica, singer; and Frank Sinatra, actor and singer.

To find what the stars have to say for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Birthday star be your daily guide.

NECESSARY changes that must be made on the domestic front. Attend to them efficiently.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—Don't be misled by surface appearances. Go into the full details of a project before making any final decision.

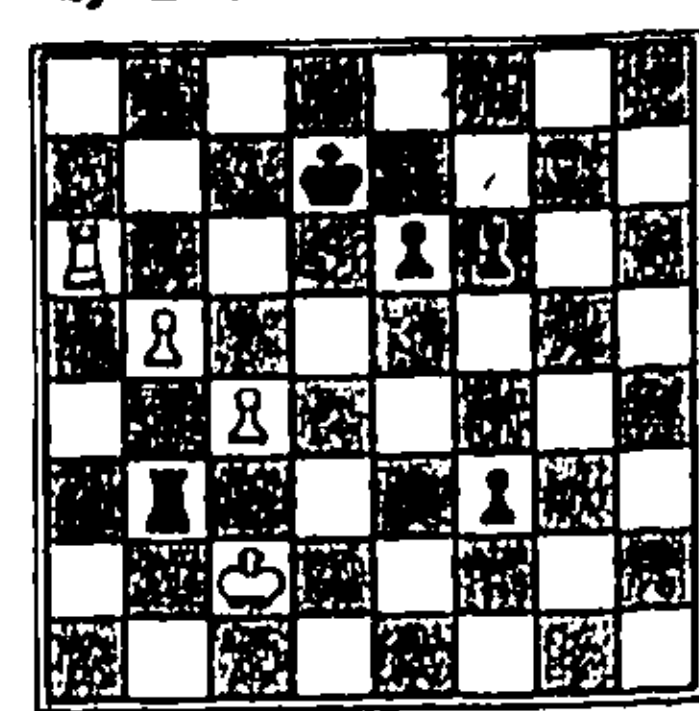
VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Promote your business affairs. Get full benefits from a highly profitable day. Exert full energies; use your initiative.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—Financial matters involving another take the foreground. Make shopping plans and then follow them through.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 23)—Business affairs are active. There may be decisions to be made which involve the happiness of others.

CHESS

by LEONARD BARDEN



As ending from actual play; Black to move and win.

Solution to yesterday's problem:

1 R-KKt2 (threat 2 Q-R2), BxR; 2 Q-R2, BxKt; 3 Q-KR2 mate, or 1... PXP; 2 Q-B1; Not 1 QxR; PXP; not 1 Q-B1; P-Q7!

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

One Rainy Afternoon

—The Playroom People Make An Important Discovery—

By MAX TRELL

THE drops of rain pattered on the roof. Knarf and Hamid looked out into the garden. There the drops were splashing into the puddles. From them slid down the leaves of the trees.

"All the drops seem to have some place to go," Hamid said to Knarf.

Knarf said: "I don't think they know where they're going until they get there."

Meanwhile, in the playroom, everyone was talking about the rain.

Writing Letters

"Rainy days," said Mr. Punch, "are days for writing letters."

"Rainy days," said Mr. Punch's wife, Judy, "are for sewing and mending and darning."

"Rainy days," said Picky Poo, the Brown Poodle, "are for sitting in one corner, then getting up and sitting down in another corner."

"Rainy days," said the Cat, "are for doing nothing but thinking about sunny days."

"I'm too busy to think about whether the rain is falling or the sun is shining," said General Tin, the Tin Soldier. He was right. Everyone knew he stood on guard at the playroom door, rain or shine. He never paid any attention whatever to the weather.

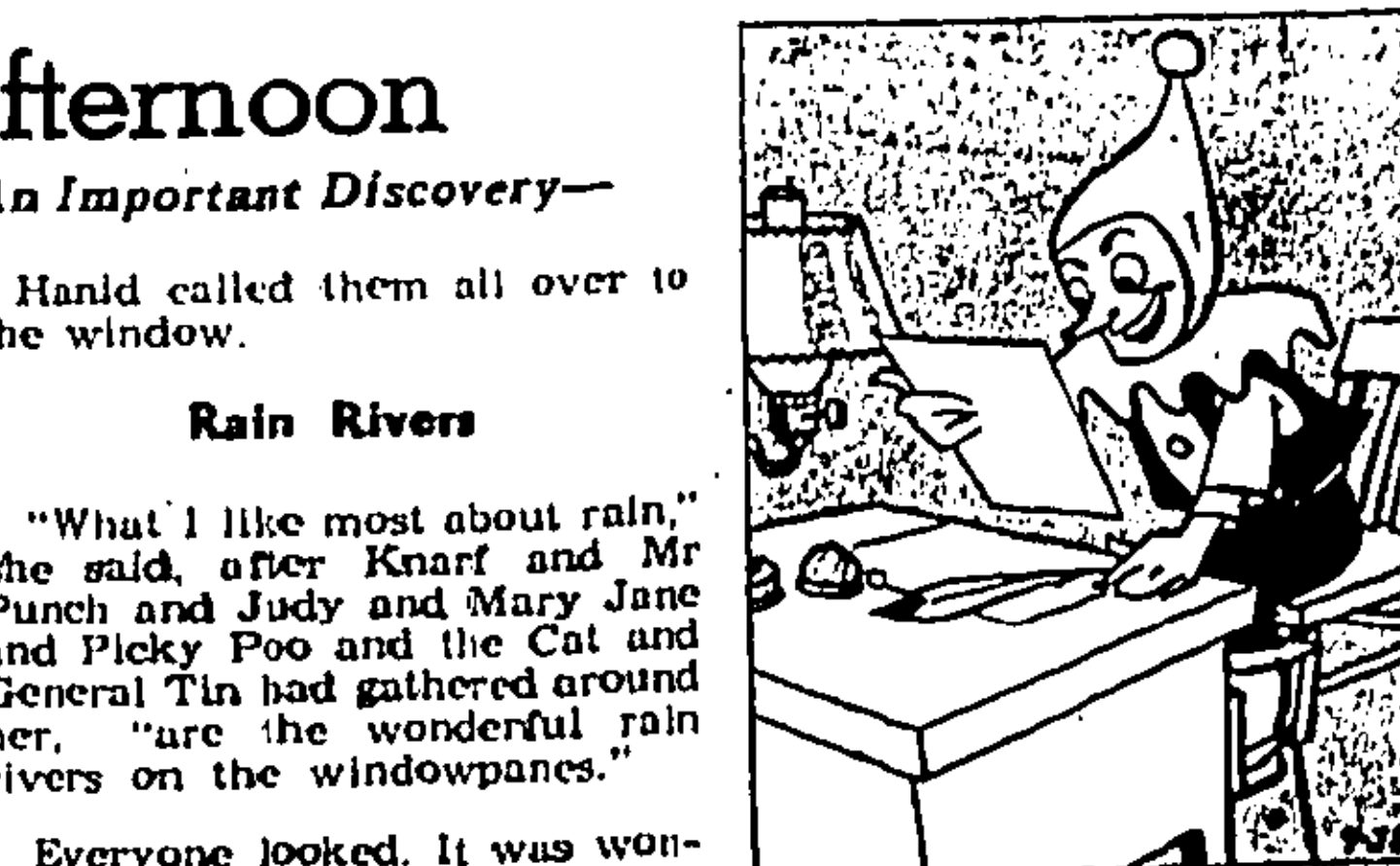
Reading Books

"Rainy days," said Mary Jane, the Rag Doll, "are for reading books and looking at pictures."

Just then they heard a loud snore. Knarf ran behind the bookcase and pulled out Teddy, the Stuffed Bear.

"Let me alone," Teddy was saying. "I was reading."

"You weren't reading at all," said Knarf. "You were fast asleep."



Mr. Punch read his poem to the others.

As they run down My windowpane

"Streams and rivers—Come, just look! Here's a tiny Winding brook."

"They run and splash And fall and play. Then one by one They run away."

After they heard Mr. Punch's poem, everyone decided that rainy days were not days to be sad in. And just to prove that they were right, the Canary, who hadn't said a word all this time, suddenly burst into his most cheerful song.

"I stand and watch The drops of rain."

Mr. Punch wrote a poem about the rain on the windowpane. He recited it to all the others when it was finished. This is how it went:

"I stand and watch The drops of rain."

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WOMANSENSE



"Grand Galop," a tailored ensemble in black and white tweed. The jacket, worn over a pencil-slim skirt, has a square neckline with a small collar; it is fitted with a wide black leather belt. The fur-lined coat is three-quarter in length and has a scarf collar and patch pockets. From Raphael de Paris—Agence France-Presse.

HAVE SCENT SENSE

New York. MEN usually find one perfume they like and then give it to each woman on their Christmas gift list.

This is the wrong approach, one male authority warns.

"Women like to feel they're wearing an exclusive scent," explained Pierre Harang. "Select a different fragrance for the ladies on your list, especially those who know one another."

Harang, a volatile Frenchman who is vice-president of a leading perfume company, has several helpful suggestions for picking right perfumes for different women.

"If you don't know the lady well and don't know her preference, stick to the well-known classics and steer away from extremes," he advised.

"Chance" is a housewife would appreciate a perfume she could wear everyday to help take the monotony out of her daily routine. A floral scent is appropriate," he said.

"A perfume that is somewhat oriental in scent is good for a woman with a busy social life. It is sophisticated, heady and intense."

"A young girl should be given a perfume with a clean, fresh citrus note."

The executive who gives his secretary perfume, Harang concluded, better make sure it's suitable for daytime wear. Then he won't have exotic fragrance wafting across a solemn business conference.—United Press.

SPECIAL HORS D'OEUVRES FOR CHRISTMAS PARTIES

By IDA BAILEY ALLEN

ANY hors d'oeuvre server should look gay. Here is an easy-to-prepare and make selection suitable to enjoy with coffee, fruit juice or other beverages.

For holiday colourings, include a line-up of glistening glass dishes filled with stuffed olives; radishes with their green tops; little bouquets of crisp water cress; and strips of pimientos toothpick-fastened around rolls of snappy cheese.

Holiday Walnut Layers: Slice top and bottom crusts from a large round loaf of rye bread. Then slice loaf crosswise to make 3 layers about 1/2" thick. Spread lightly with softened butter or margarine. Cover with decorative toppings as you would a cake.

Devilled Ham Walnut Topping: Combine 1 (2 1/2 oz.) tin devilled ham, 1/4 c. pickle relish and 1/4 c. fine-chopped walnut meats. Add 3 tbsp. mayonnaise to blend.

Cottage Cheese Onion Topping: Combine 1 lb. small curd creamed cottage cheese with 1 tsp. grated onion or minced chives, 1 tsp. horseradish (optional), and 1/2 c. minced radishes and enough sour cream to spread.

Cucumber and Carrot Cuts: With a potato peeler, slice fresh carrots and cucumbers thin lengthwise. Spread with cream cheese mixed with minced chives or parsley. Roll up like a jelly roll. Fasten ends with toothpicks. Wrap well. Chill. Leave toothpicks in.

Mayonnaise Tartare: For shrimp, lobster, crabmeat or tiny codfish balls. Mix 1 c. mayonnaise with 3 tbsp. lemon juice, 3 tbsp. minced parsley, 3 tbsp. minced capers and 2 tbsp. minced chives.

Avocado Dip: For potato chips, or crisp raw vegetables. Peel 2 medium-sized avocados and cut into pieces. Add 2 tbsp. lemon juice and mix smooth with a fork. Add (6 oz.) cream cheese, 1/4 tsp. onion juice, 1/4 tsp. salt, 1/4 tsp. monosodium glutamate and 4 drops tabasco; beat until smooth and fluffy.

Stir in 1/4 c. homogenized milk or light cream to make a good dipping consistency.

Egg Topping: Mince 3 hard-cooked eggs; add 1/3 c. minced celery, 1/4 tsp. salt, 1/4 tsp. pepper.

Topping Arrangement: Spread egg topping in the centre of each bread layer; top with half a stuffed olive; add a decoration of domestic red caviar.

Next to this, spread a ring of devilled ham topping, making it 1" wide; border with cottage cheese onion topping and stud with whole walnut meats alternating with dots of pimiento. Chill several hours.

To serve, transfer to plates covered with silver paper doilies. Cut each layer into 16 small wedges. 64 servings.

Egg Topping: Mince 3 hard-cooked eggs; add 1/3 c. minced celery, 1/4 tsp. salt, 1/4 tsp. pepper.

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AGAINST NINO VALDES...

NO ONE CAN DENY THAT
DICK RICHARDSON WAS
SERIOUSLY OVERMATCHED

Says ARCHIE QUICK

What ill-effects Welsh heavyweight Dick Richardson sustained from his bruising fight with Cuba's Nino Valdes at Harringay will only be assessed when he again enters a ring. Then we shall know the physical and psychological damage, if any, which has been inflicted on this courageous youngster.

Whether or not his career has been irreparably halted or not, no one can deny that he was seriously overmatched. Little more than a novice, Richardson has been thrown in with two of the world's leading heavyweights, Ezzard Charles and Valdes, on the assumption that he can only improve by experience.

Well, if it is experience he needs there is the Swedish holder of the European Championship looking for a fight, as well as three or four other useful Continentals. There are a host of second raters in the United States who would give Richardson all the experience he required on an American barnstorming tour.

To subject him to the merces of a ring general like Valdes, however, seems bad policy to say the least of it. It was a brawl at Harringay for three rounds while the game Richardson retained his punching power. But once the wily Nino had drained that asset from the powerful young Welshman, Dick had nothing left but his pluck. With this willing on the wall any Valdes stalking him contemptuously it was only a question of time.

MOMENT OF TRUTH
That moment of truth came at the end of the eighth round when a badly damaged Richardson retired and bawled Valdes of his "kill". Apart from the

monetary reward I cannot see that Dick has gained a thing. The manager, Wally Leslie said "the fight did him good." I know better ways of being "done good".

Champion Joe Erskine and challenger Henry Cooper were at the ringside. They would probably have attempted to box Valdes—and still lost. Richardson attempted nothing of the sort. He just slugged for three rounds, the same as Valdes did, and I cannot agree that he could have learned anything that way, except his ability to take punishment. I sincerely hope that another promising British heavyweight prospect has not been spoiled.

What we did see at Harringay to hearten us was the first round knock-out by Bobby Nell of brother Scot Charlie Hill, the reigning Featherweight British Champion. Nell, now resident in London as an accountant, has risen to the top at last after an almost fatal motor accident, and he looks as though the British, European and Empire

titles are not beyond his grasp. Five right-handers flush to the jaw and five counts was the full story of this sensational contest. I cannot recall a British Champion being treated in such a fashion since Jackie Paterson.

Two football teams, one hotel, and the only thing in common between them the roof over their heads. Sunderland's team of all the stars languish at the bottom of the First Division for all their high post-war expenditure. Bolton occupy a comfortable sixth place with power to improve and not one of their current team cost the club a penny more than the nominal £10 signing-on fee.

The two clubs both used the same London hotel the night before Bolton drew at Portsmouth and Sunderland drew at Arsenal, and the Sunderland people might easily have learned a lot from Manager Bill Riddings's young locals. He is justly proud that he signed every one of them as teenagers from the Bolton district and it looks as though he has completed Wanderers' transition period without cost following the break-up of the 1953 Cup Final team. Only Douglas Holden, the outside-left of that Wembley Eleven so occasionally beaten in the last few minutes by the wizardry of Stanley Matthews, remains and Bolton look as though they have a ready-made First Division side for years to come.

SPENDING SPREE
On the other hand, Sunderland have internationalists like Elliott, Shackleton, Fleming, Fraser, McDonald, Allen, Daniel, Anderson and Bingham jostling each other for places and the directors are prepared to embark on yet another spending spree.

Sunderland, like their friends at Newcastle, believe in the star system as an attraction and have always relied on buying the finished article. Bolton place their faith on local talent and canny team building in the manner of Wolverhampton and Manchester United.

Manager Bill Murray intends to persist with "Box Office attractions". He told me "We are quite prepared to spend £100,000 on building up a new team. We shall get the crowds with well-known new faces in the side." Next day he told his reserve centre-forward Derek Weddel to Portsmouth. This same Weddel had scored five goals against Carlisle in a North-East League match.

Referring to the disqualification, Mrs Brasher said: "I was disappointed, but it was obvious he had not done anything wrong. I could not leave the radio in case I missed any news of his appeal. After I sent off a cable to Kiki I telephoned both my daughters."

Brasher—full names Christopher William—was born in British Guiana, but left there when he was four weeks old and later lived in Baghdad and Jerusalem.

His father, Kenneth Brasher, is Secretary of the Institution of Electrical Engineers. Christopher Brasher is a graduate of Cambridge University, where he took a degree in geology.—Express Photo.

BRITAIN'S PROUD MOTHER



Mrs Kitty Brasher, mother of Britain's 28-year-old Olympic Gold Medalist Chris Brasher, reacts with emotion as she hears from the radio that Chris has won the 3,000 Metres Steeplechase at Melbourne.

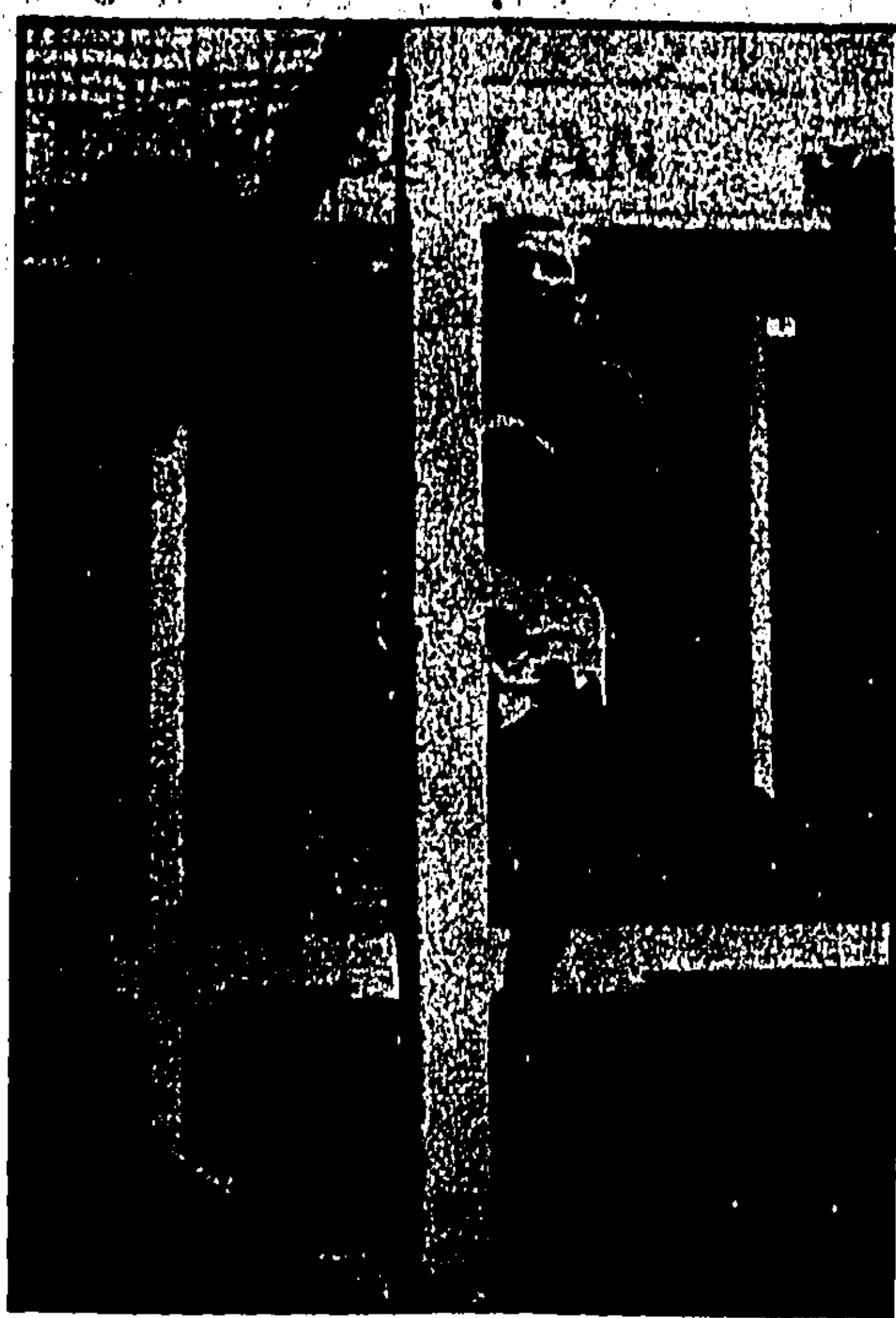
Says Mrs Brasher, who lives in a London flat: "I've got bells in my ears; the telephone is ringing so much."

"I knew Chris—we call him Kiki because he called himself that as a baby—we was running at his peak."

"Kiki is spending Christmas at Midland, Ontario, Canada, with his doctor brother Peter. But I understand that he is first going to New Zealand and then to America for his firm. We expect him home in the middle of January."

One of the first to congratulate Mrs Brasher was Mrs Motra Bannister, wife of four-minute miler Roger Bannister, who lives just opposite.

TRAUTMANN BACK



Goalkeeper Bert Trautmann, whose neck was broken in the FA Cup Final last season, made his return to football against Preston North End on December 1. In the match Trautmann showed that he has lost none of his old skill.—Reuterphoto.

HKFA TURN DOWN
INVITATION
FROM MOSCOW

An invitation from the USSR Olympic Committee and Sports Federation to send a football team to take part in the Third International Youth Games at Moscow next year was turned down by the Council of the Hongkong Football Association which met last evening.

The meeting decided that the Governor's Cup Annual Charity Match between the Hongkong Football Association and the Chinese Amateur Athletic Association will be played at the HKFC Stadium under floodlighting on Wednesday, January 2.

The meeting was presided over by Mr C. S. Wang, Chairman, assisted by the Secretary, Mr R. M. Omar.

A warm welcome was extended to Squadron Leader R. T. Britton the new R.A.F. representative on the Council. Mr Britton is taking the place of Flt Lieut Detheridge who is leaving the Colony shortly.

Mr Mok Hing was also welcomed as the representative of South China on the Council. Arising out of the minutes of the last Council meeting, Mr L. F. de Souza said that the proposal by Mr H. B. Dewar for a non-confidence vote against the Interport Sub-Committee was unconstitutional inasmuch as the proposer was a member of that Committee. After discussion Mr Dewar announced that he would withdraw his proposal.

NEW COACH
It was decided to approach Mr Lai Shiu-wing to accept an appointment as coach-manager of the FA for the whole season.

in view of the coach, Mr Sneddon leaving the Colony early next year.

The meeting also decided to renew the contract with Government for the Stadium for a further year from January 1 next. The Secretary was instructed to advise Government of the Association's intention and to ask for an appointment between the Stadium Sub-Committee and a representative of Government to go through the terms of the contract.

The Stadium Sub-Committee were given full powers in their negotiations with Government. A proposal by Mr H. A. Sheppard (Navy representative) that the Referees' Association be approached to nominate a Class One referee to sit on the Referees Sub-committee as a non-voting member to advise the sub-committee on all matters pertaining to refereeing was passed by the meeting.

Terms of reference for the Finance Committee were read by the Secretary and approved. Major Burrows was elected a member of the Finance Committee to replace Major Elrick.

Mr Sheppard said that, with reference to Mr Dewar's withdrawal of his proposal, if the members of the Interport Sub-Committee felt that they were doing the right thing in what they did, he would support it and he would give them a vote of confidence that they did the right thing. He then proposed that a vote of confidence be given to the Sub-Committee.

VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

Mr Mullen, the Chairman of the Sub-Committee, remarked that he would not continue to serve unless the Sub-Committee were given a vote of confidence from the Council.

The proposal was put to the meeting and passed. The following second round draw of the Senior Challenge Shield, to be played on January 12 and 13, was made: C.A.A. v R.A.F. K.M.B. v S.K. To: Kit Chai v Eastern Kwong Wah v S.C.A.A.

The following is the second round draw of the Junior Challenge Shield, scheduled to be played on December 22 and 23:

Watson's v Police v St. Joseph's; K.M.B. v Soldiers; Tung Wah v Army; R.A.F. Salween v A.F.S. Alameda v S.C.A.A.; T.M.C. v D.C. v R.A.F. v K.M.B. v S.K. To: Kit Chai v Eastern Kwong Wah v S.C.A.A.

The third round draw will be played on January 14 and 15, and will be as follows:

K.M.B. v Soldiers; Tung Wah v Army; R.A.F. Salween v A.F.S. Alameda v S.C.A.A.; T.M.C. v D.C. v R.A.F. v K.M.B. v S.K. To: Kit Chai v Eastern Kwong Wah v S.C.A.A.

Under Nine Managers

Mr Harry Beaver, secretary of Huddersfield Town, has served under nine managers at Leeds United since he joined the club in 1947. His managers have been: Herbert Chapman, Don Revie, Alf Ramsey, Jimmy Spink, Jimmy Meadows, Jimmy Meadows, Jimmy Meadows, Jimmy Meadows, Jimmy Meadows.

HK To Enter
Thomas Cup
Tournament

The third Executive Committee meeting of the Hongkong Badminton Association, decided last night to enter a team in the Thomas Cup tournament next year.

The Committee also ruled that only RSL shuttlecocks would be used in the local Badminton Open Championships.

The meeting was held in the offices of Dr. the Hon. A. M. Rodrigues, President of the Association, who presided over the session.

A Championship Sub-Committee was formed to include Mr R. M. Soave (Championship Secretary), Mr Robert Toy and Mr Solomon Saul.

The Committee also discussed the formation of a Building Committee to carry out preliminary work in connection with building a badminton hall for the Association. It was, however, decided to postpone further discussions pending further study of the subject by the President, Vice-President and Secretary of the Association.

Hungarian Stars
Want To Settle
In The West

London, Dec. 11. Several members of the Hungarian MTK football team now touring Britain will probably seek refuge in the West instead of returning to Hungary, it was learned here tonight.

The Hungarian team, which drew one all with the Wolverhampton team in their match today, will leave London on Friday for Vienna via Munich.

It today's match, Palotas scored the first goal for MTK from a pass by Hidegkuti in the sixth minute, but the English left-wing, Neil, playing for the first time for the Wolverhampton team, equalised with a fine shot into the corner of the net. It was a tremendously exciting game from beginning to end.—France-Press.

No More Olympic
Venture For
Malaya Unless...

Singapore, Dec. 11. Mr N. M. Vasagam, Secretary of the Malaya contingent to the Melbourne Olympic Games, said Malaya should not attempt to compete in another Olympic Games until she had sportsmen of world class.

Mr Vasagam, who returned here from Australia yesterday, said: "Malaya has gained a lot of knowledge and goodwill at Melbourne, but we should not attempt another Olympic venture until our sportsmen are ready."—Reuter.

Sports Diary

TODAY
Tung Wah Hospital Free School sports at S.C.A.A. Stadium starting at 10 a.m.

Rugby
Hexagonal Tournament: Army v Rest (Club) 6.30 p.m.

Div. 1: Navy v Kitchener (Navy) 3 p.m.
Inter-School soccer Kowloon Section 2 p.m.

Div. 2: Army v Army "C" (Sookunpoo) 2.30 p.m.

TOMORROW
Men's "C" Div. Doubles Sect. 1: R.A.F. v C.C. K.T.C. v Kowloon Tong; Young and Old v L.S.C.

Soccer
Summer League: S.C.A.A. v Kwong Wah (Club) 6.30 p.m.

INTERPORT TENNIS

Hongkong Team
To Play Macao
On Dec. 15-16

Hongkong will send a representative team to Macao this week-end, Dec. 15 and 16 to play a return match with Macao for the "Leal Senado" Cup. Macao beat Hongkong last month by a close score of three matches to two. The Hongkong team will be:

Cheung Chau (Captain), Michael Lo, Ho Cheung-po, Ling Fong, Cheung Koon-hing.

The originally selected players, Norman Lo, Ng Man-cheung and Lu Po-lop are unable to make the trip and Cheung Chau and Cheung Koon-hing, the well known Kitchener goalkeeper, fill their places. Michael Lo, the New Schoolboy Champion, Ling Fong and Cheung Koon-hing are newcomers to these Interport matches. Hongkong has a very good chance to bring back the Cup as we have an improved play a return match with Macao.

Mr B. T. Gosano, a member of the Executive Committee of the HKLTA will travel to Macao as the team manager, and the official representative of the HKLTA.

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NAMESAKES

INSTRUCTIONS: Fill in the spaces against each of the clues below with a word related to my life. The letters in circles spell out my name. Who am I?

1 Set down
2 Putting in ink
3 Not to be struck
4 Bewitching
5 Daub with colour
6 Pled
7 Middle age
8 Oppose
9 In the Bank?
10 Reading matter
11 Such a weight
12 School subject
13 This is

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CATHAY PACIFIC

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S.E.C.

DESI 3 cu. ft. Refrigerator \$920. NOW \$780.

DESI 6 cu. ft. Refrigerator \$1,080. NOW \$1,512.

DESI 5 cu. ft. Refrigerator \$1,340. NOW \$1,169.

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Telephone: 6114.

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room, 2 large bedrooms, 2 bath-
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FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS give LP
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Received: Bing Crosby, Al Jolson,
Savoyard, Burl Ives, and many more.
Records: D. Eason, 770, Alexandra
House, telephone 30100, 35057.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Proposal to change a
Ship's name.

I, William Charles Gomersall of 825 Alexandra House, Hongkong hereby give notice that in consequence of change of ownership of the vessel, I have applied to the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation under Section 47 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, in respect of the British ship "Snowdon Hill" of HONG KONG REGISTRY Official Number 168360 Gross tonnage 7939.17 tons Register tonnage 4927.01 tons, heretofore owned by Keystone Shipping Company, Limited, of No. 4 Tung Man Street, 2nd floor, Hong Kong, for permission to change her name to "CANADIAN FIR" and to have her registered in the new name at the Port of HONG KONG as owned by Canadian Fir Steamship Company Limited.

Any objection to the proposed change of name must be sent to the REGISTRAR OF SHIPPING at HONG KONG within SEVEN days from the appearance of this advertisement.

Dated at HONG KONG the 11th day of December, 1956.

Canadian Fir Steamship Company Limited.

William Charles Gomersall
Director

NOTICE

s.s. "ALA"

Offers are invited for the purchase of the Norwegian Steamer "ALA" as she lies in Kowloon Bay in a damaged condition as the result of a fire on board.

Offers should be submitted forthwith to Owners' Agents:-

Messrs. Waller & Co., Ltd.,
116, Hong Kong & Shanghai
Bank Building,
Hong Kong.

or to
Messrs. Gilman & Co., Ltd.,
Alexandra House,
Hong Kong.

Lloyd's Agents,
As Agents for the
Salvage Association, London,
from either of whom permis-
sion to inspect the vessel may
be obtained.

DECISIVE YEAR FOR FUTURE OF TITOISM

Belgrade, Dec. 11.

A decisive year for the future of Titoism faces the Yugoslav Communist Party between now and its Congress next autumn, in the opinion of foreign observers here.

Coming months should show whether the idea of Titoism, which arose after Yugoslavia's break with the Cominform, will prove to have been merely a temporary heresy in the creed of communism, or whether it will exercise a dominant influence in encouraging European Communist parties to throw off Moscow's control.

Events in Poland and, even more so, the Hungarian uprising have brought the role of Titoism into the open. They have also sown the seeds of what observers here have thought might possibly develop into a big quarrel between Belgrade and Moscow as the Cominform dispute of 1948.

Most Agree

Titoism probably means different things to people in different countries, even inside Europe. Politically, most agree that it implies a nationally independent form of communism, with every country choosing its own road to socialism—a formula to which even the Russians subscribed on paper when they signed the Moscow Declaration with President Tito this summer.

In Yugoslav eyes, it also has an economic side. It stands for decentralisation in a country's economy instead of rigid control from the centre, and considers that factories should be run by workers' councils elected, nominally at least, by the workers themselves.

Yugoslavs thus see a special significance in the introduction of the system of workers' councils in other east European countries. Some Poles have even claimed that the system of workers' councils which they are setting up goes further than the Titoist system. They argue that the Polish councils are elected "from below", while the Yugoslav ones were imposed "from above."

Titoism started to develop after Yugoslavia's expulsion from the Cominform, but the rest of eastern Europe was isolated from Yugoslavia and ideas could not penetrate. A vital date was the death of Stalin in February 1953, after which the Soviet Union and other eastern European states gradually brought their relations with Yugoslavia back to normal.

Hopes High

Until this summer, hopes were high here that eastern Europe and the Soviet Union itself, though perhaps not following Yugoslavia, would profit from Yugoslavia's experience and develop along parallel roads towards a more flexible and liberalised form of communism.

Then came Poznan riots. And, as President Tito said in a speech in November, the Soviet leaders became cold towards Yugoslavia and started to argue that Titoism was responsible for the disorders in Poland.

In September President Tito exchanged visits with the First Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party—Mr. Nikita Khrushchev, here and in the Crimea. But it seems that after their secret talks, disagreement still smouldered, though beneath the surface.

There followed the Hungarian uprising in October and the attitude of the Soviet Union towards Yugoslavia hardened still more.

Days passed and the Yugoslav party leadership did not take up a comprehensive stand on Hungary. Instead, it announced its decision that the next Communist Party congress, which under the party statute should have been held now, would be postponed until next autumn. Questions began to be asked as to whether the Yugoslavs themselves were doubting the practical effects of Titoism, and were undecided whether to change the party line.

Outspoken

The Soviet leadership of being basically responsible for the turmoil in eastern Europe. If the Russians had shown the same confidence in Hungary as they had in Yugoslavia, and had allowed her to develop along her own road towards socialism, he said, the Hungarian uprising would have been avoided.

At the same time, he issued a warning against the danger of renegade Stalinism.

In President Tito's view, on Stalinist section of the Soviet leadership had imposed its views on the rest. But he expressed the hope that by the process of natural evolution, the non-Stalinists would come to the fore in time.

Nevertheless, he criticised the whole Soviet leadership for, as he said, mistakenly conducting a campaign against the personality cult. He maintained that the Soviet leaders have failed to wage a campaign against the root of the evil, the Stalinist system of rigid control, which still persists. Poland, he said, had freed herself from just that.

Reliable Ally

Judging from President Tito's words, Yugoslavia regards Poland as her most reliable ally in the struggle now developing between Titoism and Stalinism. Other potential allies are Hungary—assuming that quiet is restored under a national Communist government—and the Italian Communist party, regarded here as the most flexible among the European parties of Western Europe.—China Mail Special.

JAPANESE PRODUCE NEW TANK

Tokyo, Dec. 11.

A Japanese armament manufacturer today claimed a prototype of a tank soon to be produced in Japan was the "most up to date in the world."

A spokesman for the Mitsubishi Nippon heavy industry said the new tank incorporated special features making it proof against radioactivity in future atomic wars and was able to operate at night by means of infra-red rays.

The spokesman said the tank was modelled after the American M4 medium tank but was "much superior." He said the 35-ton tank carried a 90 millimetre cannon and was capable of a speed of 45 kilometres an hour.

The crew's compartment was especially sealed against radio-actively dust.—Hauter.

St Andrew's Day Wall Game



St Andrew's Day at Eton College was marked by the customary Wall Game played between Collegers and Oppidans. Picture shows the Collegers arriving for the game.—Central Press Photo.

Resistance Leaders Rehabilitated

Paris, Dec. 11.

Three Polish resistance leaders who were imprisoned after World War Two on charges of collaborating with Germany, were rehabilitated today by the Warsaw regional court, the Polish PAP news agency reported.

The resisters were Casimir Mezarski, Eustache Krik and Alfred Kurzewski, chiefs of the wartime "State Security Corps" and "Underground Combat Committee."

The court said the defendants, accused of helping German troops to wipe out left-wing resisters, were convicted on the basis of "extorted confessions" alone.

RAP said the rehabilitation of the three leaders would help to repair the injustice done to the "honour of the Polish resistance."—France-Press.

Over Twelve Rebels Killed

Algiers, Dec. 11.

More than a dozen Algerian rebels were killed and seven others were captured today in clashes with French troops in the Algiers and Constantine departments.

Troops captured rebel shotguns, machineguns, pistols, Army rifles and automatic pistols.

Meantime, the Deputy Mayor of Orleansville was wounded seriously by an unidentified terrorist, who fired three shots at him and then fled.—France-Press.

RECORD BULL-FIGHTING SEASON IN SPAIN

Madrid, Dec. 11.

The return to the bull fighting ring of Luis Miguel Dominguin, Spain's famous and handsome 30-year-old matador, was the sensation of the 1956 bull-fight season in Spain.

Luis Miguel, as he is always known in Spain, was regarded as the outstanding personality of Spanish bull-fighting after the death of Manolete. He retired in 1952, with savings estimated at 30,000,000 pesetas (£300,000). He is a great friend of Hemingway and he was much fêted by cinema personalities, including Ava Gardner, when he visited Hollywood in 1954.

"Marriage and bull-fighting do not mix," Luis Miguel declared just before he was married to the pretty Italian film star, Lucia Bose, in 1955, and settled down to farm and breed cattle on his estate "Villa Paz", 65 miles from Madrid.

Some hurry away horrified after the first bull is decapitated. Others become "aficionados" (fans) for life. But each season tourists buy hundreds of thousands of bull-fight tickets, and now entrepreneurs organise their programmes for the season thinking of the foreign visitors.

Foreigners also appeared in the ring this season in no uncertain manner. One of the amazing features of the 1956 season has been that one or the other of three brothers from Venezuela—Cesar, Curro and Rafael Giron—appeared in one out of five bull-fights held during the season. Between them, the three brothers fought 157 fights and killed 314 bulls between April and October.

LURE TOO STRONG

But the lure of the ring has been too strong and this autumn Luis Miguel appeared again, making his "comeback" in the ring at Oran, North Africa.

Luis Miguel comes back to bull-fighting at a period when there is still big money to be earned. In other times, he received as much as 12,000 dollars (over £4,000) for one fight in Latin America.

There are more bull fights than ever in Spain today, in spite of the firm hold of football on the Spanish public. Football stadiums holding up to 100,000 people are filled Sunday after Sunday. In addition, there are rival attractions in the cinema and a new feature, television. Yet the number of bull fights this year were nearly 200 more than the total for 1955.

In 1956, there have been 751 bullfights, including corridas and novilladas, in Spain, France and Portugal. This figure compares with 693 in 1955, 595 in 1954 and 553 in 1953.

This increase is attributed largely to foreign enthusiasm, or at least curiosity, regarding the bull-fight. Of the some

2,000,000 tourists now visiting Spain each year, a substantial proportion want to see a bull-fight.

Cesar Giron was top of the list of matadors, with 68 fights to his credit. Curro Giron fought 45 novilladas and two corridas. Rafael Giron fought 39 novilladas and three corridas. Curro and Rafael became full-fledged fighters in a "family fight" with Cesar, already a matador, acting as "padrino" (god-father) to conduct the rank of matador (full-fledged fighter) of his two brothers. It was one of the most moving corridas of the year.

Two North Americans appeared briefly in the ring. Porter Luck, of Boston, and Harry Whitney, of Rancho de Santa Fe, California, but without much success.

IMPECCABLE 'PASSES'

A Frenchman, Pierre Schull, had favourable comments on his five fights.

A 23-year-old German named Ernst Sommerkopf, of Munich, earned rare (and fêted) bull-fight critics when he jumped into the ring unexpectedly during a corrida at Barcelona in September and carried out six impeccable "passes" with the bull before he was removed by the police.

The "wonder boy" of the Spanish bull-ring, 21-year-old Antonio Borrero, El Chamaco, was top of the list of novilleros with 61 fights. He fought one corrida at the end of the season in order to make his rank as matador. Chamaco continues to be the idol of the Barcelona crowds, but Madrid fans, annoyed because he has never yet fought in the capital, reserve judgment accordingly.

Chamaco received his red cloth (muleta), at the ceremony of being named matador, from another famous fighter, who was also a "wonder boy" in his day, El Lirio.

31 CORRIDAS

Lirio retired at the age of 22 in 1952, reputedly with some 20,000,000 pesetas (£200,000) in his pocket, and was made a "comeback" and this year has fought 31 corridas.

The 1956 season was marked by allegations that, in spite of government regulations on the subject, cases of saving the tips of the bull's horns were again frequent. One bull breeder told the press that he had had to have a police guard placed over six of his bulls destined for fights to prevent their horns from being cut back.

ALLEGATIONS

Allegations of beating and doping of bulls before fights and of the refusal of managers to accept heavy and aggressive bulls for their matadors were also heard during the season.

Whatever the truth of either-wise of these allegations, a change in bull-fight customs is clearly indicated by the fact that the official minimum weight for fighting bulls was 1,200 lbs. in 1955 and now, 1,300 lbs. in 1956.

China Mail Special.

TRACK-LAYING

Track-laying began yesterday at Nanjing on the Nanjing-Foochow railway, the 171-kilometre long railway is the second line to be built in Fukien Province, the New China News Agency reported.

It will link with the newly completed Nanchang-Ankang railway by a branch line. The new line will be 1,000 metres wide and will be completed by the end of 1957.

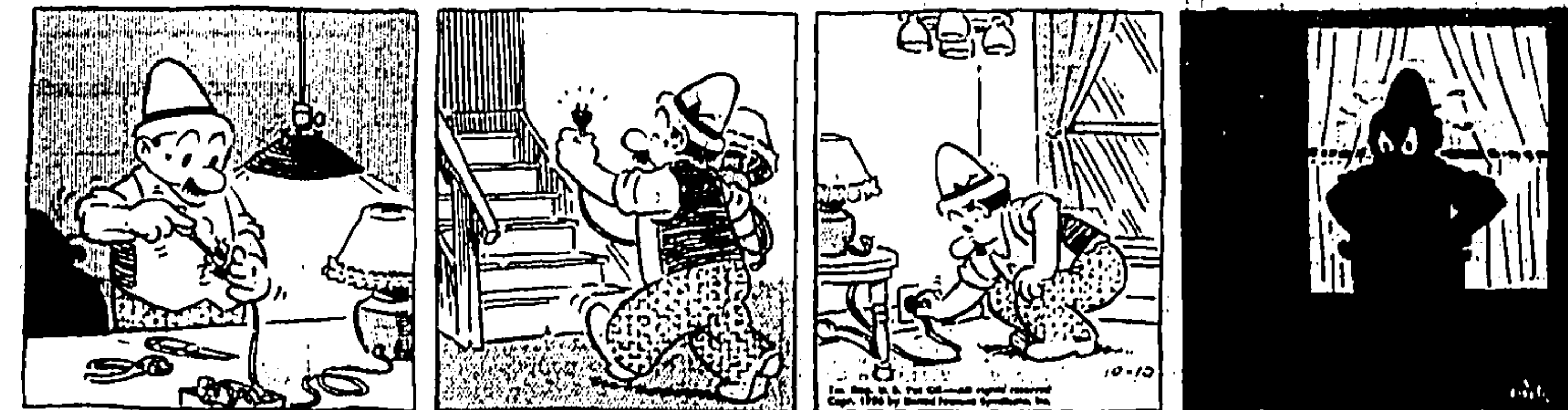
MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



FERD'NAND

By Mik



NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

Russia Withdrawing Assets From America

'HYSTERICAL TRANSFER OF CAPITAL' TO SWITZERLAND: NO INTEREST

From ERNEST ASHWICK

Geneva, Dec. 11.

Soviet Russia is withdrawing all available assets from the United States and transferring them to Switzerland, according to information I have received here.

Singapore Stock Market

Singapore, Dec. 12.
Brokers today quoted the following stock prices:

	Opening
Batu Lintang Rubber Co.	\$1.80
British Petroleum	40.00
Consolidated Tin Smelters	20.50
Fraser & Neave Ltd. Old	\$2.20
Fraser & Neave 7 1/2% cum.	\$4.00
Gammon (Malaya) Limited	\$2.00
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank	\$2.00
Indo Tin Ltd.	\$2.00
Kenanga Ltd.	\$2.00
Lat Pau Rubber Estates Ltd.	\$2.00
Malayan Breweries	\$2.00
New Serendah Rubber Co.	\$2.00
Petaling Tin Ltd.	\$2.00
Raffles Hotel	\$2.00
Shanghai Cold Storage	\$2.00
South British Insurance Co.	\$2.00
State Trading	\$2.00
United Engineers Ord.	\$2.00
Wong Yee Ching Special.	\$2.00

LONDON SILVER PRICES

London, Dec. 11.
The price of silver was quoted at 80 1/2 pence for spot and 80 1/2 pence for forward (against 80 1/2 pence previously). — United Press.

Aircraft And Steels In Demand On Wall Street

New York, Dec. 11.

Demand for aircraft shares and steels and oils highlighted an irregular, moderate stock market session today.

Late trading in issues such as Du Pont, off 4 1/4 points, Allied Chemical, down 1 1/2, International Nickel, off 1 1/4, Standard Oil of California down 1 1/4, Texas, Co. off a point.

For most issues, however, changes were fractional and there were selective strong spots, although not generally in the issues included in the averages.

Gains in the aircrafts ranged to nearly 3 points in United.

In steels, Inland ran up 3 1/4 points, Lukens 1 1/2, white Bethlehem and US Steel added small fractions and Youngstown Steel and Tube and National Steel declined fractionally.

Big News

Big news in the steels came after the market closed with announcement by Bethlehem and Youngstown that they are going ahead with merger plans despite Justice Department opposition.

There was no special news to sway the market and the day's activity was viewed as satisfactory in the light of recent performance.

Declining activity—to 2,210,000 shares from 2,600,000 Monday—was seen as particularly favorable. The consensus is that if turnover does not expand in periods of reaction the downward movement will be held within normal technical bounds.

Of 1,185 issues traded, 587 were lower, 385 higher, 248 unchanged with 19 at new highs, 84 at new lows.

New York Stock Exchange bond volume was \$9,490,000, American Stock Exchange volume was \$40,000 shares.

Closing Prices

Allied Chemicals	82 1/2
Allied Mills Inc.	31 1/2
Allegheny	31 1/2
American Cable & Radio Corp.	31 1/2
American Can Co.	31 1/2
American Steel	31 1/2

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to approximately \$550,000. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

Share	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
SHIPPING			
Wheelocks	6.85	7	

DOCKS, ETC.	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
K. Wharf	80 1/2	82	300 @ 81.50
Doek	44 1/2	45 1/2	
Provident	14 1/2	15 1/2	

LAND, ETC.	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
Land	14.80	15.10	
Land	01 01 1/2		
Land	1.35	1.40	

RUBBER	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
Latex	1.50	1.55	5000 @ 1.52 1/2

UTILITIES	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
Star Ferry	23.40	23 1/2	
Yankee	102	104	
Yankee (C)	23 1/2	24	
Yankee (D)	31 1/2	32	
Yankee (E)	9 1/2	10	

INDUSTRIALS	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
General	12.80	13 1/2	
General	15.10	15.40	300 @ 15.10
General	100	105	

CHICAGO GRAIN PRICES

Chicago, Dec. 11.

Spot	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Wheat, No. 2, red	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Wheat, No. 2, yellow	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2

Spot	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Barley	13 1/2	13 1/2	13 1/2
Oats	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2
Rye	14 1/2	14 1/2	14 1/2

Spot	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Soybeans, No. 2, yellow	21 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2
Soybeans, No. 2, white	21 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2

WINNIPEG GRAIN PRICES

Winnipeg, Dec. 11.

Spot	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Wheat, No. 2, red	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2
Wheat, No. 2, yellow	24 1/2	24 1/2	24 1/2

Spot	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Barley	13 1/2	13 1/2	13 1/2
Oats	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2
Rye	14 1/2	14 1/2	14 1/2

Spot	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Soybeans, No. 2, yellow	21 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2
Soybeans, No. 2, white	21 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2

Unemployed On Increase In America

Washington, Dec. 11.

The Government reported yesterday that unemployment rose "sharply" in November. An official report by the Labor and Commerce Department said 2,463,000 persons were jobless last month, an increase of 554,000 over October.

Part of the rise in unemployment was due to seasonal layoffs of farm construction and other outdoor workers such as lumber workers. The "out of work but hunting a job" category also included a large number of housewives and students seeking holiday-season work, they said.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local foreign exchange market today.

City	Rate
London	1.00
Paris	1.00
Geneva	1.00
Basel	1.00
Frankfurt	1.00
Amsterdam	1.00
Brussels	1.00
Copenhagen	1.00
Helsinki	1.00
Stockholm	1.00
Oslo	1.00
Norway	1.00
Sweden	1.00
Denmark	1.00
Finland	1.00
Estonia	1.00
Latvia	1.00
Lithuania	1.00
Poland	1.00
Czechoslovakia	1.00
Slovakia	1.00
Hungary	1.00
Romania	1.00
Bulgaria	1.00
Greece	1.00
Turkey	1.00
Yugoslavia	1.00
Slovenia	1.00
Croatia	1.00
Serbia	1.00
Montenegro	1.00
Albania	1.00
Macedonia	1.00
Bosnia	1.00
Herzegovina	1.00
Slovenia	1.00
Croatia	1.00
Serbia	1.00
Montenegro	1.00
Albania	1.00
Macedonia	1.00
Bosnia	1.00
Herzegovina	1.00

WORLD RUBBER MARKETS

New York, Dec. 11.

The No. 1, Raw rubber futures contract today closed 80 points lower with sales of three contracts.

Dec.	35.00
Jan.	35.00
Feb.	35.00
Mar.	35.00
Apr.	35.00
May	35.00
June	35.00
July	35.00
Aug.	35.00
Sept.	35.00
Oct.	35.00
Nov.	35.00
Dec.	35.00

Standard contract closed 10 to 60 points lower with no sales.

Dec.	35.00
Jan.	35.00
Feb.	35.00
Mar.	35.00
Apr.	35.00
May	35.00
June	35.00
July	35.00
Aug.	35.00
Sept.	35.00
Oct.	35.00
Nov.	35.00
Dec.	35.00

Recoveries staged after a weak start reflected dealer covering and a commission demand on technical reasons. Initial losses up to a cent a pound reflected the lower overnight London-Singapore cables. Uncovering of atom losses hastened the initial break.

Standing influences included the continued light and high prices shipment offerings from the Far East.

Even at the decline, local prices at parity were figured to be about 1/4 to 3/4 cent under Singapore.

Domestic factory demand remained quiet, although dealers said some of the big Akron buyers were "nibbling." In terms of one sheet was reported practically nonexistent with the main attention centered on three and four sheets. Spot No. 1 was quoted at 30 1/2 cents a pound.

SINGAPORE

The market was quietly steady all the morning but broken sharply on news that Britain received required aid from the International Monetary Fund.

No. 1 rubber per lb.	100 1/2-108 1/2
No. 2 rubber per lb.	100 1/2-107 1/2
No. 3 rubber per lb.	100 1/2-104 1/2
No. 4 rubber per lb.	100 1/2-101 1/2
Spot rubber unbleached	100 1/2-111 1/2
General market of basic ports	100 1/2-111 1/2
No. 1 pale crepe	101-103

LONDON

The market was steady with spot quoted at 31 1/4 pence.

No. 1 Raw spot	31 1/4-31 1/2
Settlement house term:	31 1/4-31 1/2
January	31 1/4-31 1/2
February	31 1/4-31 1/2
March	31 1/4-31 1/2
April	31 1/4-31 1/2
May	31 1/4-31 1/2
June	31 1/4-31 1/2
July	31 1/4-31 1/2
Aug.	31 1/4-31 1/2
Sept.	31 1/4-31 1/2
Oct.	31 1/4-31 1/2
Nov.	31 1/4-31 1/2
Dec.	31 1/4-31 1/2

General market of basic ports: Estate crepe thin Jan. 29 1/2; Estate crepe thick Jan. 29 1/2.

AMSTERDAM

The market was easy. Prices closed today in guilders per kilogram; cif December as follows:

No. 1 rubber	302 nom.
No. 2 rubber	296 nom.
No. 3 rubber	288 nom.
No. 1 crepe	288 nom.

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

New York, Dec. 12.

Prices of metal futures closed today in cents per lb. as follows:

	London, Dec
Prices of metals closed	
in sterling per long ton	
follows:	
	Buyers

LONDON METAL PRICES

London, Dec. 11.

Prices of metals closed today in sterling per long ton as follows:

Tin spot	78 1/2
3-month	78 1/2
6-month	78 1/2
9-month	78 1/2
12-month	78 1/2
Lead 1st half Dec.	115 1/2
2nd half Dec.	115 1/2
Zinc 1st half Dec.	65 1/2
2nd half Dec.	65 1/2

NAMESAKES

Business was done in the local foreign exchange market today.

City	Rate
London	1.00
Paris	1.00
Geneva	1.00
Basel	1.00
Frankfurt	1.00
Amsterdam	1.00
Brussels	1.00
Copenhagen	1.00
Helsinki	1.00
Stockholm	1.00
Oslo	1.00
Norway	1.00
Sweden	1.00
Denmark	1.00
Finland	1.00
Estonia	1.00
Latvia	1.00
Lithuania	1.00
Poland	1.00
Czechoslovakia	1.00
Slovakia	1.00
Hungary	1.00
Romania	1.00
Bulgaria	1.00
Greece	1.00
Turkey	1.00
Yugoslavia	1.00
Slovenia	1.00
Croatia	1.00
Serbia	1.00
Montenegro	1.00
Albania	1.00
Macedonia	1.00
Bosnia	1.00
Herzegovina	1.00

Continent Sells Gold To Buy Oil

London, Dec. 11.

The Continent is apparently selling gold in order to buy oil, judging from the sharp fall in the price of gold on the London market—down 5 1/4 pence to 280 shillings 6 pence.

That is still a reasonably high price compared with the 1955 low on the London market, which was 248 shillings 1 1/2 pence on April 19.

The rise and fall in the hoarding demand for gold is nowdays reflected in the market price for the gold sovereign. Nominally worth 58 shillings the gold sovereign is ached 7 1/2 shillings on October 1 and yesterday was up to 74 shillings 6 pence—representing a very handsome premium. It eased today to 74 shillings.

It was a week or 10 days ago that the Continental bullion markets sensed that the sudden high price of oil was responsible for some important selling of gold and it is considered that that may still be the main factor.—United Press.

WORLD COTTON MARKETS

New York, Dec. 11.

Cotton futures today developed smart rallying tendencies after a mixed start, although overall activity continued on the quiet side.

After stoppage of delivery notices for 600 bales, the spot December delivery edged upward on covering operations and an improved trade demand.

Moving up as much as \$1.55 a bale from the lows the market closed net 3 to 23 points higher. Opening prices were up 3 to 6 points. New Orleans closed up 6 to 45 points.

New crop months responded to commission house buying on reports that private farm interests are advocating a modified cotton export subsidy, and that cotton sold for export comes from private stocks rather than from the government surplus.

Earlier prices moved irregularly lower, showing losses up to 45 cents a bale on December liquidation, plus hedge offerings and local selling promoted by continuing uncertainty over the future government cotton policy.

Trading in current December contracts will expire in the noon hour tomorrow. Open contracts today were down to 27,500 bales. The certificated stock remained at 2,785 bales.

Month	Volume	Open interest
Dec.	7,500	27,500
Jan.	12,500	33,000
Feb.	18,000	38,100
Mar.	5,000	105,500
Apr.	5,000	125,000
May	5,000	125,000
June	1,000	59,100
July	700	7,000
Aug.	700	1,100
Sept.	700	1,100
Oct.	700	1,100
Nov.	700	1,100
Dec.	700	1,100

NEW ORLEANS

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	24.65
Dec.	24.37
Jan.	23.97-28
Feb.	23.97
Mar.	23.97
Apr.	23.97
May	23.97
June	23.97
July	23.97
Aug.	23.97
Sept.	23.97
Oct.	23.97
Nov.	23.97
Dec.	23.97

LIVERPOOL

Future closings, in pence per lb. were as follows:

Old contract	20.10
Dec./Jan.	20.10
Jan./Feb.	20.10
Feb./Mar.	20.10
Mar./Apr.	20.10
Apr./May	20.10
May/June	20.10
June/July	20.10
July/Aug.	20.10
Aug./Sept.	20.10
Sept./Oct.	20.10
Oct./Nov.	20.10
Nov./Dec.	20.10
Dec./Jan.	20.10

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1956.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

Tobias In Port

TOBIAS is a fragile-looking, white-haired man, who looks as though he would rather do anything than draw attention to himself. He is the kind of man towards whom women of all ages at once feel motherly, whom men respect as if they were his sons. The kind about whom quite small children feel protective.

The gentlest of little men, Tobias is a small, thin, old man, who does no great harm, he betrays a swashbuckling, dandy air, tries to take the town by storm.

KINDLY GENTLE
TOBIAS'S drinking bout usually ended at 11. He called at an inn for a glass of some harmless, low gravity brew, and this he took with for a long time, spinning out the doubtful pleasure as if he expected it would be a long time before he tasted another glass of the same-as-before.

People take pity on him, naturally. They pity his race, pity his age, and pity his kindly, gentle, and often they give him a handkerchief, or a small, ordinary tipple. It was the other evening, Wednesday, that Tobias, who had been drinking, called port wine, and he had not the strength of will to say no to his benefactors.

I DIDN'T MEAN TO
HE recoiled out of the inn at last and roared into the West End with colour flying to his face. The scurrying omnibuses that flew along the street, Tobias staggered about the busy roadway as though the houses had been tanks and he a lone, unarmed defender of something. A policeman rescued him, and brought him safely to dock at Bow Street next morning, and there Tobias, for the eleventh time this year pleaded guilty to

having been drunk and disorderly.

"I didn't mean to get drunk," he sighed to Mr. Bertram Reese, the magistrate. "It was just this man coming up and saying 'have a drink, old man' and then another, and then..."

WILL-POWER

TOBIAS heaved a deeper sigh. "I don't really drink, you know," he went on. "I don't seem to have any will-power, that's what's wrong. I'd better get some will-power or I can see I'll be getting me into serious trouble."

"How old are you?" the magistrate asked. "I'll be 72, day after tomorrow."

"Have you any money?" "No, but I can get some money for the fine. I don't want to go to prison—it doesn't do me any good, though I deserve it."

A BIT OF CASUAL
"Do you do any work?" "A bit of casual, sometimes, at the dining room," Tobias said. "Well, you must pay 5s," said the magistrate.

"May I have time to pay?" asked Tobias. "I don't want prison, see. I don't like confinement. It makes me miserable and miserable."

"Seven days to pay," said Mr. Reese. Tobias thanked him with a pale smile, and shuffled out to freedom, a little, inoffensive man who did not look as though he would dare to speak to a stranger, let alone accept a drink from one.

3 Die In Fires
Manila, Dec. 12. Three people were burned to death while seven others, including five children, suffered serious burns yesterday in two separate fires in Cebu Province, Central Philippines.

Five children were trapped in a house by a fire but heroic rescue work by neighbours saved them.

The cause of the fires was not ascertained.—France-Press

TEENAGERS' TRIAL CONTINUES

Evidence of the arrival of the Police and the finding of various articles belonging to the complainant at the scene of an alleged snatching in Hennessy Road was given this morning in the trial of two teenagers on charges of robbery with aggravation and larceny from the person before Judge J. Reynolds at the Victoria District Court.

The accused, Ng Tat-wing, 19, and Wu Hon-lit, 18, were alleged to have robbed two couples in a parked car on the beach at Deep Water Bay on November 5 and both were alleged to have snatched handbags from two women. The first accused is additionally charged with another count of robbery with aggravation in connection with one of the snatching cases.

They are respectively represented by Mr. Patrick Yu, instructed by Peter Mo & Co., and by Mr. H. W. S. Winter, instructed by Mr. G. S. S. Stevenson, of Stewart & Co. Mr. D. E. Greenfield, Crown Counsel, assisted by Sub-Insp. Wang Shu-chung, is in charge of the prosecution's case.

Police Constable Tang Ng-wai in evidence said that he and a fellow constable, Tsang Kwok-chung, were on patrol duty on the early morning of November 9. They were walking along Hennessy Road when they heard a commotion and on reaching a crowd in front of house No. 249, the second accused, who was in the custody of a man, was handed over to them.

As a result of what he was told he went up the stairs and found the first accused who was "nervous" whether to go up or down the stairs. He brought him down to the pavement and the complainant pointed him out as "these are the men who snatched."

Cross-examined, witness disagreed that he did not arrest the first accused.

FOUND ARTICLES
Constable Leung Yip testified that at about 120 a.m. on November 9 he and another constable were passing by Hennessy Road when he was

Prison For 3 Robbers

Three men, Szeto Wah-chung (22), Lai Hun (24), and Chung Yang (28), all unemployed, were sent to prison for two years at Kowloon Court this morning when they pleaded guilty before Mr. T. L. Yang to charges of larceny and membership of an illegal society.

The first defendant was further ordered to pay \$500 or serve two months in jail for a breach of bond.

The prosecution alleged that the three defendants hoisted a sumpin moored to the wharf at Shek Lung, Kowloon. The owner of the sumpin awoke and the three men jumped on him and snatched his wrist watch, and then escaped.

The sumpin owner then found that the thieves had stolen his clothes. The matter was reported to the police.

Later police detectives, acting on information, arrested the three defendants in Wanchai. At the time of his arrest Chung Yang was wearing the stolen clothes and admitted that he had pawned the wrist watch for \$80.

All three defendants admitted to being members of a triad society.

Szeto was sentenced to 18 months for larceny and to six months for being members of the illegal society.

Radio Hongkong

11.30 p.m. Women Only. A weekly feature introduced by Diana Ma talks about the art of make-up. **Women of the Week.** Interviewed by Hilary Green: 6. Time Signal Programme Summary: 6.30. Lucky Lottery Results presented by Margherita: 6.50. Weather Report: 7. Time Signal. The News: 7.30. Commentary: 7.45. "Time for Jazz" with Robin Day: 7.45. Letter from America by Fannie Cooke: 8. Ted Heath and his Music (BBC): 8.30. Here come the Boys: 9. Time Signal. The News and News from Britain: 9.15. Wednesday Theatre. In Ideal Husband (BBC): A Comedy by Oscar Wilde. Adapted for broadcasting by Gilbert Travers Thomas: 10.45. Music of the Twentieth Century. Kammermusik No. 1. Op. 34 No. 1 (Hindemith): 10.50. Weather Report: 11. Time Signal. Radio Concert: 11.15. Goodnight Music: 11.30. Close Down.

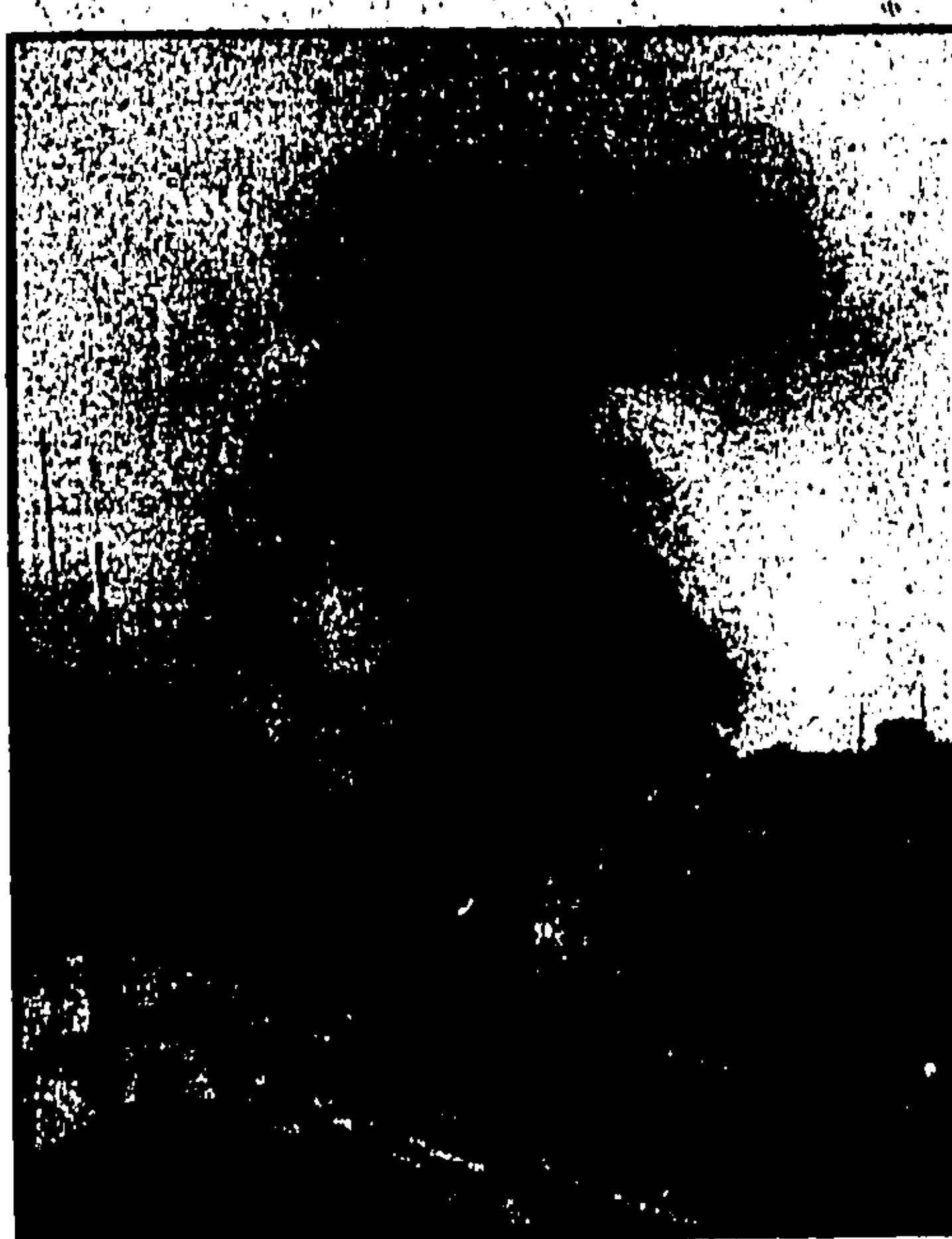
REDIFFUSION

2 p.m. Wednesday Concert Time: (Featuring the Works of Beethoven) Arioso, Op. No. 1, "Intermezzo" Suite from "Carmen", "Symphony in C Major" No. 1, "Romances" Suite from "The World as I See It". 4.15. Tea for Two: 4.30. Strictly Instrumental: 5. Children's Corner. 5.30. Wednesday requests presented by Betty: 6.30. Birthday Ballad: 6.30. Another 7.15 Show: 6.45. The House of Peter McGovern: 7. Time Signal and the News: 7.00. Weather Report and Announcements: 7.15. Artie Shaw and his Orchestra: 7.30. Coke Time: 7.45. Concert Minutiae: 8. Personality Parade—Voices of Walter Schumann: 8.15. Interlude for Music: 8.30. Diamond Music Show: 9. Time Signal and the News: 9.15. Pot O' Gold: 9.45. The Man of Property—A Novel by John Galsworthy, adapted for broadcasting by Muriel Levy: 10.10. Music Hall Varieties: 10.45. One Night Stand: 11.15. The Jinx—Presented by Jerry Lewis: 11.30. Prelude to Midnight: 11.45. "God Save the Queen." Close Down.

Kuwait Oil Centre Sabotage

London, Dec. 12. Sixteen bombs exploded in the oil centre of Kuwait early this morning, setting one oil well on fire and damaging the oil pipelines, the London Times reported from Kuwait.

It was the first serious outbreak of attacks against the Anglo-American installations in Kuwait since the beginning of the Suez crisis—United Press.



Fire Destroys Two Storeys In Central District

A tinderwood three-storey tenement block, No. 38 Pottinger Street, flared up like a country haystack this morning in the densely crowded central district.

The fire was under control shortly before noon after burning two hours. In that time all but the ground floor had been gutted and the roof had caved in. No one was thought to be trapped or injured.

The first of seven fire appliances which were engaged reached the scene within one minute of the fire call at 10.25 a.m. By that time red flames shot from the roof of the building and a column of smoke rose more than a hundred feet into the air. The roof caved in as the first jet of water gathered force and rose up towards the fire.

Fire appliances jammed the junction of Wellington Street and Lyndhurst Street from which Pottinger Street leads up in the form of a broad flight of steps. They also operated from Hollywood Road below the Central Police Station—normally a congested one-way traffic area.

Firemen first on the scene attacked the blazing building from balconies of houses across Pottinger Street and from neighbouring roof tops to contain the fire inside No. 38.

BARRICADED OFF
Police with wooden barricades prevented crowds from approaching the fire area. The lower part of Pottinger Street down as far as Queen's Road was packed solid with spectators of the spectacular blaze.

At times a whole cloud of brown smoke which poured from the burning building burst into flames and belched out across Pottinger Street with the force of an explosion. Charred debris thrown up by the flames poured down on the surrounding area as far away as Queen's Road.

Officers who led the fire fighting were Chief Officer Mr. W. J. Gorman, and Deputy Chief Officer Mr. V. C. Seymour.

EARLY AM BLAZE
Residents in a block of flats in Percival Street were given a scare when shortly after 4 o'clock this morning they became aware of a fire blazing away outside their windows.

A number of wooden cinema picture frames left in a lane behind the Lee Theatre caught fire and in a few moments became a roaring inferno lighting up the immediate neighbourhood in bold relief against a background of inky blackness.

Long tongues of flame shot high up to windows in the upper storeys scorching the walls and sending sparks over a wide area.

Employees of the Lee Theatre and residents fought the fire with poles and water. The blaze was finally extinguished by the Fire Brigade with powerful jets of water from a hose. A Police emergency van stood by to keep the crowd, which had gathered despite the early hours of the morning, under control.

APPLICATION MADE TO COURT TO CROSS-EXAMINE HON E.B. DAVID

An application for the attendance in Court of HE the OAG, Mr E. B. David, to be cross-examined on a number of points in Mr David's affidavit was made by Mr W. S. Edwards at the hearing of a preliminary point of law on the question of a privileged document raised by the defence before Mr Justice Scholes in the Supreme Court this morning.

His Lordship said he would give his ruling on the application at the end of the case for the defendant.

Mr Edwards, a former assessor of the Inland Revenue Department, who is appearing in person as the plaintiff in an action for damages against Mr K. M. Alano, an Assessor of the Inland Revenue Department. Mr Alano is represented by Mr J. C. McRobert, Crown Counsel.

The preliminary point of law, raised by the defendant in paragraph 13 of his statement of claim, was ordered to be set down for trial by Mr Justice Reynolds in Chamber on June 4, 1956. An appeal by Mr Edwards against Mr Justice Reynolds' order was dismissed by the Full Court on September 27.

His Lordship informed Mr McRobert this morning that as the defence raised the point in their statement of defence that he should begin.

Mr Edwards then made an application for the attendance of Mr David (at the material time the Colonial Secretary). He said that an affidavit had been filed by Mr David and he wished at the appropriate time to cross-examine him. In order to save judicial time he said he thought it advisable to notify the Court of this before the proceedings commenced. He had already notified Counsel for the Defence and the Registrar of the Court who had advised that he should apply to his Lordship for an order.

A SUGGESTION
Mr McRobert said that he was going to make a suggestion that the consideration of the application be deferred until the defendant had presented his case because the majority of the law relating to the application was also very intimately tied in with the question of personal attendance.

Mr Edwards referred the Court to Order 11, Rule 22 of the Code of Civil Procedure in support of his application and submitted that it was essential to his case that he be given the opportunity to cross-examine Mr David over a number of important things in his affidavit.

It was most important to him that this be done, he added. Asked if he had any authority to support his application that a person of the status of a Minister of State should be called to be cross-examined, Mr Edwards said he had to authority for that, and he had seen cases where only the claimant's privilege was only claimed in connection with a document, and not in connection with the appearance of a Government official for cross-examination. He doubted very much that privilege extended that far.

Asked what his grounds were that it was essential to his case that he should examine Mr David, Mr Edwards said that it was a main document on which the Defence was relying. There were several things in it which in his opinion were false statements.

Mr Edwards continued: "Furthermore I don't think that the deponent is vested with sufficient authority to be the criterion of what may be injurious to public interest. I think personally that he is unreliable and incompetent."

COUNSEL PROTESTS
Mr McRobert protested that the Court was being used by the plaintiff in this manner. They were there to deal with a point of law and not to give the plaintiff an opportunity to abuse the Court in this manner, he said.

Mr Edwards said that he did not wish to say anything further if the Court would grant his request. The issue was in the cross-examination. He did not wish to forego anything. The Court had asked him for an explanation. He could go on and on but he did not wish to do so at the present stage. He had made a request which was made in accordance with the laws of Hong Kong. Privilege has been claimed only in respect of a certain document, namely: an adverse report made concerning me on June 4, 1955," Mr Edwards said.

Mr McRobert said that he had before him the principal authorities which dealt with the question of summoning by the Court of a witness whose evidence was before the Court on affidavit. The only difficulty was that all these cases were part of the defendant's case in the present application and the decision as to whether or not the Colonial Secretary be summoned must depend to a very great extent on the legal basis for the application. In other words, Crown Counsel said that he would ask his Lordship to postpone consideration of the application to enable him to deal with the application at the same time as he presented the defendant's case.

Mr McRobert said that even if the Court made the order, Mr David would not be heard until after the defendant's case in respect of the application had been closed. Postponing of a decision by the Court would obviate the necessity of Crown Counsel going twice through the list of authorities.

THE PROCEDURE
His Lordship informed Mr Edwards that it had been suggested by Mr McRobert that the Court should first hear Crown Counsel on the two matters together, namely: the preliminary point of law raised in the defence and plaintiff's present application. Having done that his Lordship would then hear Mr Edwards' application and then he would give his decision. It was decided that Mr David be called, but if it were decided he would not be called, that would be the end of the matter. After that Mr Edwards could address the Court on the preliminary point of law raised in the defence and plaintiff's present application. Mr Edwards said he was agreeable to the procedure outlined. He drew attention to Order 13, Rule 10 regarding the reading of pleadings. He said he claimed the right to begin in accordance with the order and to read his pleadings.

His Lordship said that it would be quite right to read the pleadings at the trial of the action, but not at the trial of the preliminary point of law raised by the defendant as being heard. As the defendant was not to begin, it was for him to support it.

Mr Edwards said that his opinion of the procedure of the hearing was exactly the same as the trial. The order for the trial referred to was the order for the defence which in turned referred to his claim which was the very basis of his claim.

PUBLIC DOCUMENT
The statement of claim was filed on January 27 and was a public document available for inspection in the Supreme Court Registry by anybody on payment of the prescribed fee. Privilege was not upon the claim. Privilege has not been claimed in respect of the statement of claim and he asked to see the report concerning him which if true would be very embarrassing to him. The statement of claim had been tested and confirmed. When the defendant applied under order 13, Rule 10, to read his pleadings out in Chambers, the Judge dismissed the application. This was an open Court, he said, and he could see how he could conduct his case without reading out the pleadings. His Lordship said that in his opinion as the defendant had raised the point it was for him to begin, with the utmost emphasis at my command and asked his objection to be recorded.

Mr McRobert then opened the case for the defence, continuing.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hong Kong. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than the times shown below, can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office. The latest times for registered articles, one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mail can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13
By Air: Hawaii, U.S.A. & Canada, 8 p.m.
By Surface: Macao, 8 p.m.
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14
By Air: Peking, Shanghai, Hankow, 7 a.m.
Japan, 4 a.m.
Thailand, Pakistan, Lebanon, Germany, France & Great Britain, 5 a.m.
Philippines, 6 p.m.
By Surface: East Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 5 p.m.
Korea, 6 p.m.
Ceylon, Burma, & India, 5 p.m.
U.S.A., 6 p.m.

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It was the first serious outbreak of attacks against the Anglo-American installations in Kuwait since the beginning of the Suez crisis—United Press.

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